
BOWLS WA GENERAL CONDITIONS

All members of Western Australian affiliated clubs, who are shown on the Bowls Link database as having 'Playing Rights' and subject to playing restrictions applied by their home club are eligible to take part in Bowls WA Competitions and Events.

Nominations for Bowls WA events will not be accepted unless the nomination fee is received by the due date.

1. Eligibility

- 1.1 Male players are not eligible to play in Bowls WA Events, when these events are designated as "Women's" events.
- 1.2 Female players are not eligible to play in Bowls WA Events, when these events are designated as "Men's" events.
- 1.3 Cross gender substitution is only permitted in the Pennant Competition as described in Metropolitan Pennant Conditions of Play and Country League Pennant Conditions of Play.
- 1.4 Open Gender Pennant is only permitted in the Pennant Competition as described in Metropolitan Pennant Conditions of Play and Country League Pennant Conditions of Play.
- 1.5 Multiple club membership
A Player who is a member of more than one club
 - (i) Will be affiliated at only one club which shall be regarded as the player's Home Club.
 - (ii) Will play Pennant for their Home Club.
 - (iii) If a player's Home Club does not enter a side into a Defined Pennant Competition a player may apply to play in that Pennant Competition for another club of which they are a member.
 - (iv) If a Country Club plays Men's Midweek Pennant within their league on a day other than the Metropolitan Midweek Pennant day, a member of that club may apply on the appropriate Multiple Club Pennant Application form to also play in the Metropolitan Midweek Pennant Competition.
 - (v) Will play Club Championships at their Home Club
 - (vi) If a country player is eligible and is granted permission via the Multiple Club Pennant Application Form to play Men's Saturday or Women's Tuesday Metropolitan Pennant, they become ineligible to play Men's or Women's Countryweek.
 - (vii) If a player transfers Home Club status after the commencement of the season a player shall not be eligible to compete in any Club Championship at their new Home Club that they contested in the current season at their previous Home Club.
 - (viii) Where a player is the current season's Club Champion of their previous Home Club they shall be entitled to enter that seasons Champion of Club Champion Event(s) as the Club Champion of their previous Home Club.

2. Late Entries

- (i) Late entries for a Bowls WA Event will be accepted onto a waiting list up until the Specific Event Draw has been published. Should withdrawals from the original draw occur, teams on the waiting list will be added to the draw in the order they were received.
- (ii) Late entries accepted will be used to fill any byes in the original draw before the specific event draw has been published.
- (iii) Once the draw has been published, NO late entries will be accepted.

3. Replacement Players and Substitutes

Replacement Players and Substitutes may be used in Bowls WA events and competitions, under the following conditions:

- (i) Nominated and intended players can be replaced up until the constitution of players, if approved by the Controlling Body as per Laws of the Sport of Bowls Domestic Regulation: Constitution of Players.
- (ii) Bowls WA must be immediately notified when a team requires the use of a Replacement player or Substitute on the day or prior to the commencement of, or during the event, these must be approved by the officiating Controlling Body and the Umpire of the Day at the relevant venue.
- (iii) Replacement players and Substitutes may only be used in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls - Domestic Regulations.
- (iv) A defeated player in any Bowls WA event may not act as a Replacement player or Substitute in the same event.

4. Forfeits

- 4.1 A team representative or a singles player must notify the appropriate Bowls WA Fixtures and Events Committee (not the hosting venue) as soon as possible prior to the day of an event if they are unable to participate and intend to forfeit.
- 4.2 If on the day of play a team representative or a singles player intends to forfeit they must notify the hosting venue.

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- 4.3 A team or singles player that forfeits during any Bowls WA event (Sectional or Knockout) shall be liable for a fine (per player), except that if in the final game of any sectional play the result of the singles player or teams drawn to play against each other will have no effect upon the final sectional winner they may, with the consent of the Controlling Body, elect not to play. If one team or player wishes to play the final game, then the game must be played.
- 4.4 The recipient of a forfeit shall be awarded a win except where a team or singles player that forfeits two or more games in sectional play will be considered as never entering the event and all previous scores shall be deleted, except where 4.3 applies.

Penalty:

- ▶ Failure to notify Bowls WA prior to the start of an event of an intended forfeit may result in a fine.
- ▶ A forfeit on any day of the competition except as described in Bowls WA Field of Play Rules shall result in a fine.

5. Bye

A team or singles player receiving a Bye shall progress to the next round of the event with no loss or gain of entitlements.

6. Late Appearance

- 6.1 In all Bowls WA events 30 minutes is allowed beyond the scheduled starting time for players to arrive.
- 6.2 If at the end of 30 minutes a member of a team is not present and no replacement player or substitute is approved by the Controlling Body, the defaulting team will forfeit the game to their opponents.
- 6.3 A substitute or replacement player will not be allowed for a singles player.
- 6.4 In the case of extenuating circumstances (eg. Major freeway hold-up), the game can at the determination of the Bowls WA Fixtures and Events Committee be re-scheduled.
- 6.5 It is the responsibility of the Manager of a side or team or a singles player to make every effort to immediately notify the host club and the Controlling Body of the extenuating circumstances which will delay their arrival at the venue and to apply for consideration for the game to be re-scheduled.

7. Player Protection

- 7.1 Zones, Leagues, Regions and Clubs are requested **not** to schedule Championships that conflict with Bowls WA Open events or Bowls Australia National events; so as to encourage their members to compete or officiate at State and above level.
- 7.2 If Zones, Leagues, Regions or Clubs are unable to avoid concurrent scheduling, the Zone, League, Region or Club **must** provide player protection for their players and or officials for the period the player or official is actively engaged in; plus reasonable travelling time for International Events under the control of Bowls Australia or World Bowls, Bowls WA Open State Events and selection trials for the Australian Sides Championship.
- 7.3 For all other events if a Zone, League, Region or Club Championship can not be re-scheduled or it is impractical to offer player protection the player(s) involved should decide which event to contest.

8. Trial Ends

- 8.1 Before start of play in any game, or before continuing an unfinished game on another day, one trial end must be played in each direction. The Controlling Body may however limit the number of trial ends to be played to no trial ends or one trial end in one direction using as many bowls as will be used in the game according to the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.
- 8.2 Trial ends are not part of the game. The start of play is the rolling of the jack in the first end. All trial ends shall be completed by the scheduled starting time of the game and if still in progress at the scheduled starting time shall cease immediately.
- 8.3 In Bowls WA State Events, trial ends shall be restricted to the first game to be played on any one day on any one green by a side, team or player; except that if the direction of play on a green in any one day is changed or if a side, team or player is required to change greens additional trial ends will be permitted.
- 8.4 If a green is rolled between games, both teams will be entitled to trial ends as per 8.3.
- 8.5 If a synthetic green is watered between games, both teams will be entitled to trial ends as per 8.3.

9. Attire

The appropriate clothing is to be worn for Bowls Australia or Bowls WA events; as described in the Bowls Australia NMP Policy.

Penalty:

- ▶ The penalty for non-compliance, as reported by any Umpire or Bowls WA official (including Zone/League/Region officials), the player/s may receive a fine.

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10. Smoking and the Consumption of Alcohol

Any lit or unlit smoking implement, electronic cigarettes and alcoholic beverages are not permitted on the greens during any Bowls WA Competition or Event.

Bowls WA strongly encourages clubs to define a smoking area well away from the playing surfaces.

Penalty:

- ▶ For the first offence on that day, the player shall be warned by the Umpire of the Day.
- ▶ If the player commits the same offence for the second time on the same day, the player shall be disqualified from the game and no substitute or replacement player be permitted to take his/her place in the team, and the game will be forfeited to the opponent.

11. Use of Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices

All mobile phones must be turned to silent (or vibrate) whilst play is in progress.

- 11.1 In the case of a pending emergency, permission to set a mobile phone to an audible tone must be given by the Umpire of the Day.
- 11.2 Mobiles phone may **NOT** be used on the greens at any time whilst play is in progress on any rink.
- 11.3 Mobile phones may be used away from the greens as long as play is not disrupted or held up.
- 11.4 Electronic Devices are not permitted e.g. Ipods or Radios
- 11.5 Players who require the use of any Electronic Device for medical reasons should notify the Umpire of the Day before the start of play

Any Player that is seen by the Umpire of the Day or is reported to the Umpire of the Day to be disrupting or holding up play by using a mobile phone.

- ▶ For the first offence on that day, the player shall be warned by the Umpire of the Day.
- ▶ For the second offence a fine will be applied and thereafter a fine for each and every continuing offence.

12. Greens Safety

Bowls WA, in identifying risks associated with bowls, has implemented the following rules in the best interests of risk management and Sports safety.

12.1 Players

Players directly participating in a game are not permitted to sit on the banks with any portion of their body in the ditch or on the green whilst play is in progress.

- ▶ For the first offence on that day, the player shall be warned by the Umpire of the Day.
- ▶ A fine will be applied for each and every continuing offence.

12.2 Spectators and Players

Spectators or players not directly participating in the game must abide by the Laws of The Sport.

13. Photographs and Video

All photographs or video footage that are taken at Bowls WA Association Events by the Official Bowls WA Photographer or official remain the property of Bowls WA.

14. Players Transferring Clubs

14.1 Pennant Season Transfer

There are specific conditions that apply to a player wishing to transfer their entitlement to play for; and/or transfer Home Club status to another club once the annual Metropolitan Pennant Competition has commenced.

- (i) After the first Pennant game of each season and up to and including the 31st December of that year, permission will be granted to compete in the Metropolitan Pennant Competition and change Home Club status to another club subject to the Bowls WA Clearance By Law. Provided that:
 - a) The player applies in writing to the Bowls WA CEO or his/her nominee.
 - b) The player upon approval of the application and prior to competing in the first Pennant game for their new Home Club pays the applicable administration fee to Bowls WA.

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- (ii) After the 31st December of each season permission may only be granted in **extreme circumstances** to compete in the Pennant Competition and change Home Club status to another club during the current season, provided that:
- The player applies in writing to the Bowls WA CEO or his/her nominee who will consider the application
 - The application is in accordance with the Bowls WA Clearance By Law.
 - The player upon approval of the application and prior to competing in the first Pennant game for their new Home Club pays the applicable administration fee to Bowls WA.

Penalty: A club will be forfeited and may incur a fine for playing a player who has not been transferred correctly during the Pennant Season.

14.2 Player Transfer Disputes

Should any club claim that an outgoing player is in financial dispute with their club then they must contact Bowls WA in writing, setting out their dispute with the player. The CEO of Bowls WA shall resolve the dispute and the player may not play for any other club until the dispute is resolved.

14.3 Interstate Clearance

- 14.3.1 Any member of an affiliated bowling club in another Australian State or Territory seeking membership of a Club in this State shall lodge an Interstate Clearance Form, found on the Bowls Australia website under Club Assist-Policies, to their original State Association for processing.
- 14.3.2 Any player of an affiliated bowling club in Western Australia seeking membership of a club in another State or Territory shall lodge an Interstate Clearance Form, found on the Bowls Australia website, to Bowls WA for processing.

15. Umpire of the Day

- 15.1 While several umpires may officiate on any one day, only one (1) Umpire shall be designated as the Umpire of the Day.
- 15.2 The Umpire of the Day may delegate a representative to monitor the temperature.
- 15.3 The Umpire of the Day shall be solely responsible to make the final decision in regard to the interpretation of Laws or Rules and continuation, deferment or abandonment of play.

16. Umpire Equipment Restrictions

Bowls WA allows suitably trained Nationally Accredited Umpires, carrying out their official measuring duties in all Bowls WA Events Pennant and Above to only use the approved *Bowlsline Leice laser measure* that measures to four (4) decimal places.

Competing players in all Bowls WA Events Pennant and Above are not permitted to use any form of laser measure.

17. Fines and Administration Fees

Any fine or administration fee shall be paid to Bowls WA in accordance with the invoice issued to:

- ▶ The Secretary of the Club where the Club is liable for an administration fee or is being fined.
- ▶ The player concerned where any individual player is liable for an administration fee or is being fined.

Should the fine, or administration fee not be paid by the prescribed date, the following restrictions may apply until the fine, or administration fee is paid:

- Where the Club is liable, the Club or any of its members may not be permitted to take part in any game or fixture conducted by Bowls WA or under patronage of Bowls WA, nor shall the representative of the club concerned be permitted to attend or take part in any meeting of Bowls WA.
- Where an individual player or players is liable any such player or players may not be permitted to take part in any bowls game or fixture conducted by Bowls WA or under the patronage of Bowls WA.

The amount of each and every fine and administration fee shall be reviewed on an annual basis by the Bowls Management Committee.

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18. Protest Procedure for Bowls WA State Events

In the event that a player in singles or a team wishes to dispute the result of the game due to an Umpires Decision made during the course of the game the following procedures are required to be followed:

- 18.1 Once both cards are signed by both competing players in singles or both team representatives in team play and handed into the Controlling Body or their representative no Protest will be permitted
- 18.2 In the event that a player in singles or a team wishes to dispute the result of the game due to an Umpires decision made during the course of the game and the game card has not been signed by one or both singles players or a representative of both teams in team play, the following procedures are required to be followed:
 - (i) If it is required that the result of the game or competition be decided forthwith or at the end of play on the day on which the incident occurred, then, whether or not the umpire's decision is later found by the relevant Bowls WA Committee to be incorrect, it shall be final and binding in respect of all circumstances adjudicated upon and no further action will be taken by that Committee.
 - (ii) If an immediate result of the game or competition is not considered necessary, or if the game or competition involves play at a later date of a further round, and before such later date the decision made by the umpire is held to be incorrect either by the Bowls WA Fixtures and Events Committee or Bowls WA Management Committee on appeal, then the Bowls WA Fixtures and Events Committee will forthwith make any consequential adjustment to the score and/or take any further action that may become necessary to rectify the result of the original decision of the umpire.
 - (iii) In the event of the umpire's decision being ultimately held to be incorrect, or varied in any way, Bowls WA should take steps to disseminate the correct decision in the given circumstances.

19. Appealing a Bowls WA Operational Committee Decision or fine or administration fee

Any administration decision by a Bowls WA Operational Committee, fine or administration fee imposed, may be appealed through the following process:

- (i) A written appeal with an explanation and listing all mitigating circumstances is to be lodged with the Bowls WA CEO within 48 hours of the written notification of the decision.
- (ii) If the CEO believes the appeal has merit the Bowls WA Appeals Committee will consider the appeal, and provide the lodger with a written copy of their findings.
- (iii) A Sub Committee of three (3) members appointed by the Bowls WA Board, will hear appeals on operational committee decisions made.
- (iv) The decision of the Bowls WA Appeals Committee is final.

20. Delaying Play

If the Umpire or the Controlling Body, either by their own observation or on appeal from one of the skips or an opponent in singles, decides that a player is deliberately delaying the delivery of a player's bowl:

- ▶ On the first occasion the Umpire shall warn the player;
- ▶ For the second and subsequent offence the end will be regarded as completed and the opponents of the offender will score as many shots as there are bowls in use by such opponent.

21. Death at the venue or in transit

21.1 Death in transit

Should a Players Death occur in transit, the match in question is immediately abandoned.

21.2 Death at the venue

21.2.1 Should there be a death of a player immediately prior to or during the match, that match will be abandoned.

21.2.2 Should there be a death of a player, official, spectator, employee or any other person not directly involved in an individual match, the commencement or continuation of that match will require the joint agreement of the respective team managers. Should agreement not be reached, the match will be abandoned.

21.3 Pennant Fixtures

Should this occur during any pennant fixture and the required number of ends to constitute a game has been completed, then a winner shall be determined at the time play ceased. Should there not be a constituted game, then the fixture will be treated as abandoned and equal points shall be awarded.

21.4 Other Bowls events.

The controlling body shall determine when and if the event shall be replayed/rescheduled.

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22. Player damaging the Green

The Umpire of the Day shall be at liberty to warn a player if in their opinion he is causing damage to the green. Following the warning, if the player continues to cause damage to the green, the Umpire of the Day may request the player to retire from the green and take no further part in the match. For further information refer to Bowls Australia Greens Protection Policy.

22.1 Refusing to leave the green

If the player refuses to leave the green, the player will be considered to become a defaulting player as per the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

23. Disciplinary Procedures for Players

Participants in the sport are expected to show appropriate respect to fellow players, officials and spectators; upholding the Laws of the Sport and to act in a manner that does not bring the game into disrepute. These procedures will apply to any players participating in events, teams or squads which are subject to the authority of Bowls WA.

Complaints may be lodged by the Umpire of the Day, officials from competing clubs, the authorized team manager or a participating player.

23.1 Complaints referred to Bowls WA may include:

- Violation of or non-compliance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, Bowls WA General Conditions of Play, General or Individual Pennant Conditions of Play and/or Individual Event Conditions of Play,
- Acting in a manner unbecoming a Member or prejudicial to the objects and interests of Bowls WA, a Controlling Body and/or the sport of bowls, bringing themselves, another member, Bowls WA, a Controlling Body or the sport of bowls into disrepute.

23.2 Complaints must be made in writing within 72 hours of the alleged incident and addressed to the Chief Executive Officer. The complaint shall be clear and unambiguous, stating precisely the matter to be determined,

23.3 Within 72 hours of receipt of the complaint the Bowls WA Appeals Committee will consider the matter and make a determination. All parties involved will be informed of the decision in writing, within 48 hours thereafter. The committee has the power to call individuals before it, but is not required to do so.

23.4 Penalties which may be determined, subject always to any limitations in the relevant legislation or the Laws of the Sport include:

- ▶ A reprimand(s);
- ▶ A fine(s);
- ▶ Suspension(s), from all bowls activities, on such terms and for such period as is considered fit;
- ▶ Exclusion(s) from a particular activity, event or events;
- ▶ Disqualification(s), for such period as is considered fit, including life bans;