

CONDITIONS OF PLAY

Bowls Australia: Australian Para-Nationals Event

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Controlling body: Bowls Australia Ltd.

Event: Australian Para National Championships

Dates: Practise Day: Thursday 5 October 2023

Match Days: Friday 6 – Monday 9 October 2023

Venue: Warwick Bowling Club

Lloyd Drive, Warwick Western Australia

1. ENTRY CONDITIONS

1.1. Affiliation

Open to all bowlers who are registered as a member of an affiliated club with a State or Territory Association (STA) affiliated to Bowls Australia.

1.2. Eligibility

1.2.1 As a condition of entry, all competitors must:

- 1.2.1.1 Have a minimum national level disability classification B5-B8 through International Bowls for the Disabled (IBD) as per the IBD database.
- 1.2.1.2 Not be currently under disqualification or suspension by their STA or their National Authority.
- 1.2.1.3 Comply with all applicable 'Laws of the Sport of Bowls and Domestic Regulations for Australia, Crystal Mark 4th edition (Laws of the Sport of Bowls) April 2023, including any amendments and Bowls Australia Policies.
- 1.2.1.4 Competitors nominating for events, must be deemed eligible to play in that event by the appropriate disability governing body for Bowls Australia.
- 1.2.1.5 Player/s requiring wheelchair assistance must provide their own assistant. All mobility and artificial devices used by players must follow the BA 'Artificial Devices Policy'.
- 1.2.1.6 Players within teams **do not** have to be affiliated with the same club but must be affiliated with the STA of which they represent.

1.3. Entry Process

- 1.3.1 Entries process will be decided by each State / Territory organisation
- 1.3.2 Entries to be submitted to BA using the dedicated entry from by no later than Friday 18 August 2023.
- 1.3.3 All fields marked mandatory on entry forms **must** be filled out correctly, with direct contact details for each competitor provided. The Controlling Body retains the right to reject or delay the confirmation of an entry which has with any outstanding mandatory information.
- 1.3.4 No entries will be permitted following the close of entries date unless approved by the Controlling Body. Entries received after the close of entries date, may be considered on a first come first served basis, if a player who has nominated for the event withdraws from the competition before being constituted.

1.4. Withdrawals

- 1.4.1 All entries for an event may be withdrawn up until the advertised close of entries date.
- 1.4.2 Competitors who withdraw after the official close of entry date can be replaced by another player from the State body the player in question represents.
- 1.4.3 All withdrawals must be submitted in writing to Bowls Australia. The Controlling Body may implement an official withdrawal process at their discretion.
- 1.4.4 A team/player intending to withdraw must notify Bowls Australia and the venue club, Warwick Bowling Club, ASAP and not later than the scheduled commencement time on the day of play.

2. EVENT STRUCTURE

2.1. Event Structure

- 2.1.1 The events to be conducted at the National Championships are:
 - a. B5/B6 Women's Singles (minimum of 6 competitors required); in the event of there being insufficient numbers for these competitions, B5-B8 Women's Singles will be played.
 - B7/B8 Women's Singles (minimum of 6 competitors required); in the event of there being insufficient numbers for these competitions, B5-B8 Women's Singles will be played.
 - c. B5/B6 Men's Singles (minimum of 6 competitors required); in the event of there being insufficient numbers for these competitions, B5-B8 Men's Singles will be played.
 - d. B7/B8 Men's Singles (minimum of 6 competitors required); in the event of there being insufficient numbers for these competitions, B5-B8 Men's Singles will be played.
 - e. Open Women's Pairs (minimum of 6 teams required); in the event of there being insufficient numbers for these competitions, BA will endeavour to provide the most suitable option for play.
 - f. Open Men's Pairs (minimum of 6 teams required); in the event of there being insufficient numbers for these competitions, B5-B8 Men's Pairs will be played.
 - g. 14-point Men's Pairs (minimum of 6 teams required); in the event of there being insufficient numbers for these competitions, Open Men's Pairs will be played.
- 2.1.2 In the first instance, Women's pairs should be entered before open (cosmopolitan or mixed) pairs. If three or less entries are received in the Women's pairs, mixed pairs may be entered in the open pairs' competition. In this instance, sides entering Women's into open pairs will be permitted to split the Women's pairs to form mixed pairs.
- 2.1.3 States are restricted to six men and four women. There should be equal numbers of 5/6 and 7/8 players where possible for the draw to work evenly. Substitutes will only be permitted subject to approval by the Controlling Body.
- 2.1.4 Each State/Territory Association must seed their players. Seedings shall be used in preparation of the National Championship draw including allocation of players into sections.

2.2. Venues

- 2.2.1 The Controlling Body has the right to conduct the event on any combination of vegetation or synthetic surface.
- 2.2.2 All rinks at venue clubs should be standardized between 4.3 and 5.8 metres however, wherever possible all rinks must be a minimum of 4.5 metres in width.

2.2.3 In unforeseen circumstances, the Tournament Director may require teams to play on the same rinks in the same direction on the same day.

2.3. Event Schedule

- 2.3.1 A proposed event schedule will be published on the Bowls Australia website, and the Controlling Body will endeavour to utilise these parameters for the final event schedule as much as possible.
- 2.3.2 The Controlling Body reserves the right to amend the proposed event schedule due to entry numbers, available greens and any other relevant factors.
- 2.3.3 Players will be required to play up to three rounds a day.
- 2.3.4 Players must be available at the venue for all days of competition as schedules may need to be changed due to inclement weather or other unforeseen events or incidents.

2.4. Competition Format

2.4.1 The format of play for each event will be Sectional Play followed by Knockout Rounds.

2.5. Sectional Play

- 2.5.1 Game points will be awarded as outlined in Section 6 and section rankings as determined as outlined in Section 7.
- 2.5.2 Where possible, the number of player/teams in each section will be **four**, with each player/team playing each of the other players/teams in their section once. However, the Controlling Body reserves the right to amend this number for any reason, including but not limited to schedule constraints, green availability, or inclement weather.
- 2.5.3 All sectional winners will automatically proceed through to Knockout Rounds.
- 2.5.4 Should a player or team forfeit during Sectional Play, the remaining sides in that section shall be credited with three points for a win and a shots margin equal to the average of net shots margins recorded in all matches played in that round in all sections. Fractions shall not count.

2.6 Next Best Qualifiers (NBQs)

- 2.6.1 Where there are less sections than the number of positions in the knockout draw, the vacant positions in the first round will be filled by the next best ranked players/teams ("Next Best Qualifiers" or "NBQs") from all sections within an event as described in Section 7.2.
- 2.6.2 The number of Next Best Qualifier positions is determined by subtracting the number of sections in an event from the next-highest perfect knockout number.
- 2.6.3 The Controlling Body reserves the right to amend or withdraw this stipulation subject to entry numbers and scheduling.

2.7 Knockout Rounds

- 2.7.1 All qualifiers from Sectional Play as per section 2.5 and 2.6 will proceed through to Knockout Rounds.
- 2.7.2 Next best-ranked qualifiers (as described in Section 2.5) will not be drawn to play another next best-ranked qualifier under Section 2.6 in the first round of Knockout Play.

2.8 Match Format

- 2.8.1 The Format of Play will be:
- 2.8.1.1 Singles: Four bowls of a set per player, 21 shots up (shots in excess of 21 will not count).
- 2.8.1.2 Pairs: Three bowls of a set, per player, 15 ends.
- 2.9 Time Limits
- 2.9.1 The time schedule is as follows
 - a. Round 1 8:45am 11:00am
 - b. Lunch 11:00am 11:45am
 - c. Round 2 12:00pm 2:15pm
 - d. Round 3 3:00pm 5:15pm
- 2.9.2 Play will commence no later than the nominated starting time for each round. A period of grace of not more than 10 minutes will be allowed unless prior notice is given with reasons acceptable to the Tournament Director at the venue of play.
- 2.9.3 All events have a time limit of two-hours-and-fifteen-minutes (not including trial ends). This time limit will apply to all sectional matches and knockout rounds prior to the Final. The Final in each event will not be subject to a time limit.
- 2.9.4 Any player/team arriving after the official start time for an event shall lose the right to play trial ends. Any player/team arriving at the green more than 15 minutes after the official starting time for an event shall forfeit the game and the points for that game (during Sectional Play) or not progress through to the next round (in Knockout Play). This determination will be made by the Tournament Director on the recommendation by the umpire in control of the match.
- 2.9.5 Dead ends will be replayed until the time limit is reached.
- 2.9.6 If the time limit is reached when an end is in play, and that end is declared dead, the end must be replayed. If replayed end is declared dead, the jack is to be respotted.
- 2.9.7 Finals If the score is tied when all ends have been completed, players/ teams will play an extra end until the winner is determined. Law 28
- 2.10 Trial Ends and Practice

- 2.10.1 Two trial ends shall be allowed
 - Prior to the scheduled starting time of each day's play
 - On resumption of a match on another day or at another venue.
 - For a player changing greens during play.
- 2.10.2 Trial ends will be allowed for a player changing greens during the day.
- 2.10.3 Trial ends before the Final in each event shall be at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- 2.10.4 The Controlling body reserves the right to amend the number of ends played in the case of unforeseen circumstances, as per Law 5.1.2.
- 2.10.5 An announcement will be made over the venue's public address (PA) system (or equivalent) for the commencement of trial ends 15 minutes before the scheduled match start time.,
- 2.10.6 Start of Play: Play will commence with the sound of a horn or bell or an announcement signalling the start time over the venue's PA system. Those who finish trial ends early must wait for one of the above before commencing their match.
- 2.10.7 End of Play: When the time limit is reached a horn, bell or an announcement will be made over the venue's PA system. If an end is in progress when the time-limit is reached, that end must be completed as per 2.9.6 .The start of an end is determined by the delivery of the jack by the first player to play in that end.
- 2.10.8 Should a venue be unable to use their PA system for any reason, all matches in play should be made aware of the announcements in Sections 2.10.1, 2.10.2 and 2.10.3 by the best available method as soon as practically possible.
- 2.10.9 Practice shall cease one hour prior to the scheduled starting time on the day of play as per Law 4.
- 2.10.10 In the case of a bye, a bowler may practise on any rink that is available except for the one he/she is to play on next. Permission must be sought from the Tournament Director. Rinks are allocated by the Controlling Body. (Law 4.3)

2.11 Incomplete Matches

- 2.11.1 Should a match not be completed, as per the Format of Play stipulated under sections **2.8 and 2.9**, then the score stands as at the completion of the end in play.
 - a. In singles 15 ends will constitute a game (otherwise in Sectional Play a draw will be recorded),

- Pairs If 10 ends have been completed in a game in Sectional Play, then the
 result or winner shall be declared as per the score card when play stopped.
 Otherwise in Sectional Play a draw will be recorded and scored accordingly.
- c. If Sectional Play is being played then the completion of 66% of rounds in Sectional Play shall constitute the completion of that Sectional Play and the Tournament Director and Disputes Committee can determine the result at that point if they believe time is running out to complete the Event even if they move to another venue, which must be considered first.
- d. *Knockout matches:* If the scores are equal at the completion of the end being played when the time limit is reached, or when the required number of ends has been played, one additional end (or additional ends if required) will be played to determine a winner (as per Law 28).
- 2.11.2 A match that has begun but not been completed for any reason, including but not limited to decisions by the Controlling Body to abandon or cut short matches due to inclement weather, shall be deemed "no result".

2.12 Alterations to the format and length of games

- 2.12.1 The Controlling Body reserves the right to alter the format, times of play, greens and venues to suit local unforeseen circumstances, giving as much notice as practicable. The preferred method of contact in these circumstances will be via email.
- 2.12.2 Where an event is interrupted or cannot be completed due to inclement weather or other unsuitable conditions, the Controlling Body may alter any of the conditions of its programme if it decides it is essential to successfully carry out or finish the Championship. (Law 55.3.4)
- 2.12.3 Games shall proceed under artificial lights, if necessary, to achieve a result. The Controlling Body will determine the number of ends required to complete a game depending on the conditions.

3. COMPOSITION OF TEAMS AND ENTRIES

3.1. Nominated Players and Teams

- 3.1.1 Players become nominated players once an entry for a singles or team event has been lodged and confirmed by the Controlling Body (Domestic Regulation 2).
- 3.1.2 Players can only nominate once for each event they are eligible for.
- 3.1.3 Nominated players playing positions can be amended before their first round in the competition. All amendments to nominated players positions must be approved by the Controlling Body.
- 3.1.4 All nominated players must conform to all Conditions of Play.

- 3.1.5 Players become Constituted Players in each event when the jack is rolled in the first end of the first game to be played by that team or player.
- 3.1.6 Constituted Players may change positions within a team prior to the start of any subsequent game within an event. Scorecards must be amended to reflect any change in playing positions.

3.2. Replacement or Substitute Players

- 3.2.1 Substitutes in the first round and subsequent rounds and replacement players in rounds after the first round will only be permitted if a player is physically incapable or otherwise prevented from playing. Law 55.3.3
- 3.2.2 Approval for substitutes or replacement players must be sought from the Controlling Bodies Tournament Director or their nominee before they play in a match. This player must not have already been constituted in the event.
- 3.2.3 Only the players who complete the final match of an event will be eligible for prize money, medals or trophies.

4. POSITION OF PLAYERS AND PLAYER MOVEMENT

- 4.1 Prior to the start of each end, the following players will take their position at the mat-end of the green:
 - Pairs: the leads
- 4.2 On changeovers, the skips will move to the mat end together.
- 4.3 After delivering their first bowl, players will only be allowed to walk up to the head under the following circumstances:

4.3.1 Singles

4.3.1.1 The opponents: after delivery of their third and fourth bowls.

4.3.2 Pairs

- 4.3.2.1 The leads: after the delivery of their third bowl;
- 4.3.2.1 The skips: after the delivery of their second and third bowls.

4.3.4 Exceptional Circumstances

In exceptional and limited circumstances, a singles player can ask the marker for permission to walk up to the head, or a skip can ask that a player walks up to the head earlier than described above. If a player does not meet the terms of this law, Law 13 (Laws of the Sport of Bowls) will apply.

5. DELAYING PLAY

- 5.1 If the umpire, either by their own observation or on appeal from one of the skips or the opponent in singles, decides that a player is deliberately delaying play:
- 5.1.1 On the first occasion, the umpire will warn the player.
- 5.1.2 If the player commits the same offence a second time, the end will be regarded as complete and the opponents of the offender will score as many shots as there bowls in use by such an opponent.
- 5.1.3 If the player offends a third time, the game will be forfeited to the opponent.
- 5.1.3.1 In this case, the team receiving the win by forfeit will receive the shot allocation listed under section **6.1.3** or the score at the time of the forfeit, whichever shot margin is greater.
- 5.2 No player/director may leave the green during the 20 minutes prior to the end of the time limit in an uncompleted game or a forfeit could result.

6. SCORING

6.1. Sectional Play

Game points will be awarded during sectional play, as follows:

- 6.1.1 Three points for a win;
- 6.1.2 One point for a draw or no result;
- 6.1.3 Three points, and the following shot allocation for each discipline, for a win by forfeit (based on average sectional scores from other BA events):
- 6.1.3.1 Singles: 21 shots for, 12 shots against (shot margin of plus 9)
- 6.1.3.2 Pairs: 17 shots for, 10 shots against (shot margin of plus 7)
- 6.1.4 No points, and the following shot allocation for each event, for a loss by forfeit (based on average sectional scores from other BA events):
- 6.1.4.1 Singles: 12 shots for, 21 shots against (shot margin of minus 9)
- 6.1.4.2 Pairs: 10 shots for, 17 shots against (shot margin of minus 7)
- 6.1.5 Should a player or team forfeit during Sectional Play, the remaining sides in that section shall be credited with three points for a win and a shots margin equal to the average of net shots margins recorded in all matches played in that round in all sections. Fractions shall not count.
- 6.1.6 Forfeited matches where less than 15 ends in Singles and 10 ends in Pairs have been completed shall incur the shot allocations under 6.1.3 and 6.1.4.
- 6.1.7 Final scorecards must be checked and signed by the players responsible for keeping the card (under Domestic Regulation 3.2) or the Marker in Singles, and the umpire in charge of that match prior to submission to the tournament office.

- 6.1.7.1 Errors in the processing of a result of any scorecard that has been signed by the participating players/teams will not be amended due to the impact on other results and sectional qualifiers. All signed scorecards will be taken as final. Exceptions will only be made if the players concerned can prove to the Tournament Director that a genuine error has occurred.
- 6.1.8 The Jury of Appeal may, at its discretion, apply a further penalty on any player/team that forfeits a match for any unsubstantiated reason.
- 6.1.9 Any player/team that forfeits a match and subsequently progresses through to a Knockout Round will be reviewed by the Jury of Appeal and may face penalties.

6.2. Knockout Rounds

Games points are not allocated to knockout matches as the winner automatically progresses to the next round in accordance with Law 28.

7. DETERMINATION OF WINNERS

7.1. Sectional Winners

Section winners and rankings will be decided as follows:

- 7.1.1 Highest number of **game points** scored will be ranked higher;
- 7.1.2 If game points are equal, the player/team with **the highest net total shots** over all games in the section (shots for minus shots against) will be ranked higher;
- 7.1.3 If game points and net total shots are equal, the Controlling Body will divide a player/teams' total of shots for, by the total of shots against to calculate a shot percentage. The player/team with the **highest shot percentage** will be ranked higher;
- 7.1.4 If game points, net total shots and shots percentage are all equal, the player/team who won the game between the players or teams that are equal within their section will be ranked higher.
- 7.1.5 If game points, net total shots and shots percentage are all equal and the players/teams who are tied played a draw or recorded no result in their match, they will be ranked as follows:
 - 7.1.5.1 by the **most ends won** for Pairs and;
 - 7.1.5.2 by the **least ends lost** in Singles.
- 7.1.6 If players/teams remain equal after using all ranking methods described in sections 7.1.1 through 7.1.5, the ranking of the teams will be determined by a Jury of Appeal.

7.2. Qualifiers into the Knockout rounds

7.2.1 Qualifiers into the knockout rounds will be made up of all sectional winners and, if applicable, the number of next best players/teams to complete the number of knockout spots, ranked under section 7.1.2.

- **7.3. Presentation of awards** (The following outlines the complete list of awards presented)
- 7.3.1 All disciplines will be presented with a Gold and Silver Medal.
- 7.3.2 Clover / Lester Encouragement Award recognising future potential (This award is decided through a joint decision with our International Technical Officials and the Team Managers)
- 7.3.3 Australian Para Nationals Champions *Overall Trophy* (The below outlines how the Nationals Champions will be decided over all disciplines)
 - 7.3.3.1 Gold 11 points
 - 7.3.3.2 Silver 9 points
 - 7.3.3.3 Semi Finalist 7 points
 - 7.3.3.4 5th 5 points
 - ** subject to change
- 7.3.4 Australian Para Nationals Overall Best Bowler recognising the person who was deemed the best bowler of the event as decided by the Team Managers and BA Staff)

8. ATTIRE AND FOOTWEAR

As per the 'Laws of the Sport including Domestic Regulation 5, as well as all Bowls Australia policies.

8.1. Footwear

Footwear must adhere to Appendix 2 and or Domestic Regulation 5.2, and must be approved for use by Bowls Australia. This policy is available on the Bowls Australia web site which can be found here.

8.2. Attire

All playing attire must comply with the Bowls Australia National Merchandise Program (NMP) Logo Policy

8.3. Transgressions

Failure to adhere to the Attire and Footwear conditions mentioned above will result in the offending player being given a verbal warning by the Tournament Director, Event Manager or their nominee, which will be recorded for the remainder of the event. The offending player will then be given until the starting time of their subsequent game to comply with the Foot Attire and BA Logo Policy. Failure to comply with this deadline will result in the offending player being disqualified and the game forfeited to their opponent.

9. EQUIPMENT

9.1. Stamps on Bowls

All bowls used during the event must carry a registered World Bowls stamp of either the current year or of a future year. Random checking of bowls will occur prior to the commencement of games. The Bowls Australia's 'Bowls Testing Policy' is available on the Bowls Australia web site.

9.2. Marking Touchers

Spray chalk will be used to mark touchers in all Singles games and is the preferred method for marking touchers in all team games.

9.3. Bowls Stickers (Stick on markings)

Bowls stickers will be allowed in lead up games provided all bowls within that team have identical stickers (Law 52.1.8.4).

If opposing teams or singles players have the same design or colour of stickers, the singles player or players in the team listed second in the draw must remove their stickers (Law 52.1.8.5).

Players must use any bowls stickers supplied by the Controlling Body if requested, including during the latter rounds and finals of the event.

Any bowls stickers that are used on bowls must not obscure the serial number or the World Bowls Stamp (Law 52.1.8.3).

Officials or the Controlling Body have the right to instruct players to remove, replace or apply alternate bowls stickers due to discolouration, damage, inappropriate placement, or colour clashes.

9.4. Specifications

Bowls Australia's <u>Artificial Devices Policy</u> shall apply throughout the event. All players involved with the event must comply with this policy, which can be found on the Bowls Australia website.

10. PROHIBITIONS

10.1. Anti-Doping

The National Integrity Framework - <u>Bowls Australia's Improper Use of Drugs and Medicine Policy</u> shall apply throughout the event.. All players coaches, and team managers participating in the event **must** be up to date with the Sport Integrity Australia (SIA) Online Education course; any player failing to meet these obligations will be excluded from the event.

SIA officials may carry out prohibited substance testing at the event. Any player identified by SIA officials must undergo testing as requested.

10.2. Smoking and Alcohol

Bowls Australia's <u>Smoke Free and Alcohol Policy</u> will be enforced during all days of the event.

Failing to follow these policies could result in the imposition of an Instantaneous Penalty

- 10.2.1 For the avoidance of doubt, subject to Clause 3, smoking at any BA sanctioned event, including social events, shall only be permitted in designated outdoor smoking areas.
- 10.2.2 As a minimum, all playing areas will be alcohol free. All other areas will be subject to the venue's licence conditions.
- 10.2.3 While any game/match is in progress participating players, team managers and coaches should refrain from drinking alcohol.

10.3. Match-Fixing

Bowls Australia's <u>Match Fixing Policy</u> shall apply throughout the event. All of those directly involved with the event, including but not limited to players, officials and event staff, must comply with this policy, which can be found on the Bowls Australia website.

11. JURY OF APPEAL

- 11.1 A Jury of Appeal shall be appointed for the purpose of deciding upon any matters not provided in the Conditions of Play, for dealing with any appeals from decisions made by umpires and/or event staff or volunteers, and generally for the purpose of exercising overall authority on behalf of Bowls Australia.
- Any appeal against a decision made by an official relating to a Law, Domestic Regulation or a Condition of Play may be referred to the Tournament Director in the first instance before being referred to the Jury of Appeal.
- 11.3 In the event of an appeal during the playing of an event, such appeals shall be made in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, and shall be directed to a Jury of Appeal which shall consist of:
 - BA President or CEO or their nominee:
 - Tournament Director or their nominee;
 - Event Manager or nominee.

12. PRIZE MONEY

12.1. Prize Money Breakdown

There is no prizemoney for this event.

13. OTHER LAWS, REGULATIONS AND POLICIES

13.1. Coaching during play

Players who intend to receive coaching during a game, must inform the ITO's and the umpire of the coach's name at least one (1) hour prior to the commencement of the game. The time spent with a coach during a match will be monitored by the ITO's and they reserve the right to warn any players if they believe that this time is being abused.

13.2. Photography, Video and Live Streaming

Bowls Australia reserves the right to use any photographs or video taken during this event for further promotional requirements. Select matches at the event may be live streamed or broadcast through Bowls Australia's chosen communications channel at the discretion of the Controlling Body.

13.3. Laws of the Sport of Bowls

All other Laws, Regulations & Policies other than stated above shall conform to the Laws of the Sport of Bowls and Domestic Regulations for Australia, Crystal Mark 3rd edition, Version 3.1 as published in April 2019., and any further amendments.

13.4. Mobile Devices

The use of personal electronic and communication devices will not be used during a match except with the expressed permission of the Controlling Body as per the <u>Bowls Australia Personal Electronic Devices Policy</u>.

13.5. Other policies

All Bowls Australia policies will be enforced during this event. To access these, visit the BA website: https://www.bowls.com.au/about-ba/key-documents/constitution-and-policies/

14. CONTACT INFORMATION

For any event enquiries, please contact Bowls Australia's Events and Competition Manager Andrew or Events and Competition Coordinator Paul directly:

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