

CONDITIONS OF PLAY

2024 Australian Indoor Championships

Controlling body:	<i>STA Qualifying:</i> Host STA in conjunction with Bowls Australia <i>Indoor Championships:</i> Bowls Australia
Event:	Australian Indoor Championships
WA Qualify Dates:	Saturday 11 th and Sunday 12 th May 2024
Dates:	<i>STA Qualifying:</i> Various, dependent on STA <i>Indoor Championships:</i> Monday, August 12 – Thursday, August 15, 2024
Venue:	<i>STA Qualifying:</i> Various, dependent on the STA <i>Indoor Championships:</i> Tweed Heads Bowls Club

1. ENTRY CONDITIONS

1.1. Affiliation

All players must be an affiliated bowler with a State or Territory Association that is affiliated to Bowls Australia as defined in the Bowls Australia Constitution or affiliated to an international body that is a member of World Bowls.

1.2. Eligibility

As a condition of entry to compete in this event, all competitors must:

- 1.2.1 Not be currently under disqualification or suspension by their STA or their national authority.
- 1.2.2 Comply with all applicable Laws of the Sport, Domestic Regulations and policies of Bowls Australia, including the Anti-Doping Code.
- 1.2.3 For the main draw, must have qualified for the event by either:
 - 1.2.3.1 Qualifying through an official STA qualifying event;
 - 1.2.3.2 Received a direct entry into the event from BA;
 - 1.2.3.3 Received a wildcard entry into the event from BA.

1.3. Qualifying Events

- 1.3.1 Each STA will receive a pre-determined number of qualifying spots each year for the main draw, determined by each STAs proportion of total entrants for the previous years' qualifying events.
- 1.3.2 STAs may set their own entry conditions for qualifying events, however, must include the conditions listed under sections 1.1 and 1.2.
- 1.3.3 Players can attempt to qualify for the main draw in more than one state.

2. EVENT STRUCTURE

2.1. Qualifying Competition Format

- 2.1.1 The format of competition will be conducted by either knockout or sectional play with post sectional knockouts if required. The format of play will be determined by the host controlling body based on the number of entries received in each discipline.
- 2.1.2 The controlling body of the qualifying event will determine and advise BA of all final qualifiers for the main draw.
- 2.1.3 All qualifying matches must be conducted under the format of play described in section 2.2.2 and 2.2.3.

2.2. Australian Indoor Championships Format

- 2.2.1 The event will be played in a knockout format with 32 qualifiers in both the Men's and Women's events.
- 2.2.2 The event will be played in sets play format as outlined in law 56 of the laws of the sport:
 - 2.2.2.1 Singles: Four bowls, 2 sets of nine ends with a three end tie-breaker played if required.
- 2.2.3 Time limits will not apply to any matches.

2.3. Respotting the Jack

As per law the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, there will be no dead ends. Instead, the jack will be re-spotted in accordance with the nearest point of the jack to the mat line at a spot on the rink which is 2 metres from the front ditch and on the centre line and play should continue.

2.4. Tie Breaker

If a game is tied after the two sets have been completed (each player having won one set or both sets having been drawn), a best-of-three-ends tie-breaker should be played to decide the winner.

- 2.4.1 The tie-breaker will be decided by the highest number of shots won in the three ends.
- 2.4.2 There should be no further play in the tie-breaker if, at any point, it becomes impossible for one player or team to draw or win the tie-breaker, given the number of ends left.
- 2.4.3 If the third end of a tie-breaker has been completed and the scores are still level, the players should play a fourth tie-breaker end to decide the winner.
- 2.4.4 If the fourth end of a tie-breaker is a tied end, the players will play further tie-breaker ends until a winner is found.

2.5. First to play

- 2.5.1 First set: the players (skips or opponents in Singles) should toss a coin and the winner of the toss has the options to keep or give away the mat.
- 2.5.2 Second set: the winner of the first set should place the mat, then deliver the jack and the first bowl. If the first set is a draw, the winner of the last scoring end in that set should place the mat, then deliver the jack and the first bowl.
- 2.5.3 First, fourth and any further ends of a tie-breaker: the players (skips or opponents in Singles) should toss a coin and the winner of the toss has the options to keep or give away the mat
- 2.5.4 In all ends after the first in each set (including tie-breaker ends), the winner of the previous scoring end should place the mat, then deliver the jack and the first bowl. If, however, the first end of the first set or the first end of a tie-breaker is a tied end, the first to play in that end should also play first in the second end of the first set or the second end of the tie-breaker.

2.6. Arrangement of the game

Bowls Australia reserves the right to allocate the same rink to a player, more than once on the same day.

2.7. Alterations to the format and length of games

- 2.7.1 The Controlling Body reserves the right to alter the format, times of play and greens to suit local unforeseen circumstances, giving as much notice as practical.
- 2.7.2 Where a program is interrupted or cannot be completed due to inclement weather or local conditions, the Jury of Appeal may amend the format and length of games to achieve a result or postpone the event where an outcome cannot be achieved.

2.8. Trial Ends

One trial end in each direction will be allowed for all games. In trial ends players can use any combination of bowls taken from different sets so long as all bowls carry a registered World Bowls stamp of either the current year or a future year.

2.9. Start of the game

A signal will be given at the start of each session. Any player/team arriving after the starting time shall lose the right to play trial ends. Any player/team arriving at the green more than 15 minutes after the official starting time (as determined by the marker and/or umpire) shall forfeit the game and the points for that game.

3. REPLACEMENT AND SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS

3.1. Replacements

3.1.1 Should a qualifier for the event under section 1.2.3 withdraw from the event prior to the draw being published, they will in the first instance be replaced with the next best qualifier from the same qualifying event.

3.1.1.1 In the instance that no next best qualifier from the same qualifying event exists or can be determined, the withdrawn qualifier will be replaced by a wildcard as determined by the controlling body (as per section 1.2.3.3).

3.1.1.2 Withdrawals must be made in writing directly to Bowls Australia, and will be deemed as final once the withdrawal is confirmed.

3.1.2 Should a qualifier for the event under section 1.2.3 withdraw from the event after the draw is published publically, they will not be replaced in the draw and any matches in which the player is fixtured will be deemed as byes.

3.2. Substitutes

Substitute players are not permitted.

4. RESTRICTING THE MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS DURING PLAY

4.1. Moving to the head

After delivering their first bowl, players will only be allowed to walk up to the head under the following circumstances.

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

In exceptional and limited circumstances, the player can ask the marker to walk up to the head earlier than described above.

5. DELAYING PLAY

If the umpire, either by their own observation or on appeal from one of the players (skips), decides that a player is deliberately delaying the delivery of a player's bowl they will precede as follows:

- 5.1. On the first occasion, the umpire will warn the player.
- 5.2. If the same 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 are bowls in use by such opponent.
- 5.3. If the same player offends a third time the game will be forfeited to the opponent.

6. ATTIRE

As per the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, including Domestic Regulation 5.

6.1. Footwear

Footwear must adhere to Appendix A.2. Attire must adhere to Appendix A.3 and the BA logo policy. This policy is available on the Bowls Australia web site www.bowls.com.au.

6.2. Uniform

- 6.2.1 Players **must** wear their club uniform for all matches up until the semi-final; all uniforms worn must comply with the BA Logo Policy.
- 6.2.2 It is compulsory for players to wear any sponsorship materials provided by BA, and for TV matches the uniforms supplied by Bowls Australia. **There will be no exceptions to this rule.** This includes any small microphones during the TV finals. Uniforms will be supplied for the semi-finals onwards; players who reach the semi-final round should report to the tournament office following the conclusion of their quarter-final to receive their uniform.
- 6.2.3 Failure to adhere to the BA Logo Policy will result in the offending player being given a verbal warning by the convening match umpire which will be lodged and recorded with the tournament director. The offending player will then be provided up until the forfeit time of their subsequent game to comply with the BA Logo Policy. Failure to comply by this deadline will result in the offending player being disqualified and the game forfeited to their opponent.