



Bowls North

CONDITIONS OF PLAY FOR DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS

2023/24 Season

Amended December 2023



Bowls North

Conditions of Play for Domestic Competitions 2023/24

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Matters not specifically set out in these Conditions of Play (COP) are to be dealt with according to the Laws of the Sport of Bowls Crystal Mark 4th Edition April 2023, including Domestic Regulations for Australia (WB Laws) and any applicable Bowls Australia (BA) policies. In the event of any conflict between these Conditions of Play, WB Laws and BA policies, the WB Laws and BA policies prevail.

Changes to these Conditions of Play may only be made by the Bowls North (BN) Match Committee and approved by the Board.

SECTION 1. GENERAL

1.1. CONDUCT OF COMPETITIONS

- (a) All BN competitions will be arranged and supervised by the BN Match Committee, which has authority to take any action deemed necessary for the satisfactory conduct of such competitions.
- (b) Except as otherwise expressly provided in these COP, the Committee shall from time to time make By-Laws regulating the playing of Pennant or other similar matches and the method of determining the winner of any such Pennant / match provided due notice is given to affiliated clubs.

1.2. ELIGIBILITY (amended December 2023)

A member of an affiliated Club who has paid a capitation fee to BN shall be eligible to participate in BN Championship events and Pennant competitions, providing that member complies with all requirements outlined in the BT Affiliation, Clearance and Eligibility to Play Policy. This includes any players wishing to participate under BN's Social Substitute rules (refer COP 3.10). Confirmation must be received by BN from BT that all required paperwork has been submitted and approved and that all conditions of the BT policy have been met before any player can participate under the policy. Details and required forms can be sourced from the BT website.

- Intrastate players (registered with a club in any other region in Tasmania) – Permit to Play Pennant required.
- Interstate players (registered with any other STA in Australia) – Interstate Player Declaration required.

1.3. DUAL MEMBERSHIP

Where a player is a member of two or more clubs, including clubs in multiple State and Territory Associations (STAs), that player must declare only one of those clubs in one STA as their Nominated Club for the purpose of playing in championship events conducted by a STA or BA during a bowling season. This includes, but is not limited to, Champion of Champions events.

Per the BA Affiliation & Eligibility to Play policy, playing Pennant conducted by any STA shall not constitute a declaration of a player's Nominated Club. For clarity, Pennant is not a championship event.



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1.4. INFRINGEMENT OF LAWS OR CONDITIONS OF PLAY

The infringement of any BA Law or of a COP may involve disqualification or replay, a penalty set down in the Laws of the Game, or such other penalty as the Match Committee or the BN Board may determine in respect of a player or team in accordance with COP 1.8. A right of appeal to BN shall exist in relation to the imposition of a penalty or sanction.

1.5. CONFLICTING COMMITMENTS

Any player required to play in an event under the control of BT/BN shall not be penalised for their non-appearance in any club event, which is scheduled for play at the same time.

1.6. CHOICE OF SURFACES

There shall be no discrimination in favour of either natural, synthetic, indoor or undercover surfaces in the allocation of events under BN's control.

1.7. USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Will be controlled in line with the BA Personal Electronic Devices Policy.

1.8. PENALTIES FOR INFRINGEMENT OF CONDITIONS OF PLAY

Penalties for infringing a COP, where no specific penalty is noted, may be imposed as follows:

- (a) Reprimand via a formal letter or a face-to-face meeting followed by a formal letter.
- (b) Loss of any number of Pennant points.
- (c) Fines up to \$500.00 per incident.
- (d) Exclusion from competition from specific events, on specific dates or for a period of time.

1.9. ATTIRE – BASIC RULE

The BA National Merchandise Program Logo policy and BA Footwear policy will apply to all players in BT Pennant competitions and BN Championship events.

1.10. ATTIRE FOR COMPOSITE SIDES

Players from a club making up a composite pennant side may wear BN approved Club attire as if they were a side, or plain white attire with a BA logo.



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1.11. BOWLS DISCS/STICKERS

Where discs/stickers are affixed to bowls, the discs/stickers must be identical for all bowls in use by:

- (a) A side in a side event (Penalty may apply)
- (b) Players in composite teams or replacement players must use the same discs/stickers as the entire team, or the entire team must use no discs/stickers. This includes BN Championship events.
- (c) There must only be one layer of discs/stickers fixed to either side of the bowl.

1.12. ARTIFICIAL DEVICES

Will be controlled in line with the BA Artificial Devices Policy.

1.13. REGISTRATION AND CLEARANCES

- (a) Before commencing pennant play or playing in any Club, Bowls North or Bowls Tasmania championship event, a player must nominate and register with a club associated with BN.

After the commencement of the season, new player/s' registration form is to be emailed immediately to the Bowls North Secretary and the affiliation fee payment must be received by Bowls North within 5 working days after player being added to the club's database.

- (b) Players who have moved from other clubs (either during the pennant season or during the winter recess) must obtain clearance from their previous club which must be processed through Bowls Link database before commencing play.
- (c) Players who move from Associations outside BN also require a clearance, including mainland clubs/associations.
- (d) Clearances will not be processed by BN after the 12th round of the BN 18 round pennant season. Clearances after this date require Bowls North Board approval before processing.
- (e) Players with an interstate pennant declaration, must not play in a lower division than the player had played while competing interstate, when returning for a game in the Bowls North Pennant competition.

1.14. DUMPING OF BOWLS

The BA Greens Protection Policy will apply to all events under BN's control. The policy outlines actions that can be taken by clubs, by officials, or by BN, against players who "dump" their bowls and in doing so cause damage to greens.



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SECTION 2. BOWLS NORTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

2.1. ENTRY FEES

- (a) The payment of entry fees, as fixed by the Board of BN and advertised on event entry forms, are an individual player's responsibility. The prescribed fee must be paid by **Electronic Funds Transfer to BN** within 24 hours from the close of entries, to entitle any player to take part in the competition. Failure to adhere to this condition, will make the player's entry null and void.
- (b) **East Coast Championships** - Entry forms/fees must be sent to BN by Club Secretaries. Entry fees, as fixed by the BN Board, must be paid by a club cheque or Electronic Funds Transfer to BN within the time determined by the Board to entitle any player to take part in the competition. The conduct of all East Coast championships will be managed by the East Coast Match Committee.

2.2. DRAW FOR MATCHES

- (a) The allocation of venues for BN Championship events will be in line with the BN Selection of Greens for Events policy (Appendix A).
- (b) The Match Committee shall conduct a draw in such a manner that, in knockout and post sectional events, the contestants are reduced to power of 2 as quickly as possible. Where there are potential byes in the 1st round of post-sectional play, the Match Committee will determine the next best qualifier(s) after sectional play to fill the bye position(s). The next best qualifier can come from any section, and the logic of COP 2.18.(b) will be used to determine the required number of next best qualifiers.
- (c) In Sectional Play, the Match Committee shall ensure that there is a minimum of 3 teams (or singles players), but preferably 4 teams (or singles players) in each section.
- (d) Matches shall be played on dates and at times determined by the Match Committee.
- (e) The Match Committee shall determine any alteration to these dates and times which circumstances may require. Late entries may be accepted to complete a section, at the discretion of the Match Committee, **but not for Knockout events after the completion of the draw.**

2.3. MATCH COMMITTEE & RESPONSIBILITY FOR EVENTS

On each day of play, the Match Committee shall be responsible for all decisions up to 1 ½ hours before the scheduled time of commencement, after which time decisions affecting the event shall be the responsibility of the Match Manager appointed at each venue. The host club is responsible for the appointment of the Match Manager, who may be a member of the Match Committee.

The conduct of all East Coast championships will be managed by the East Coast Match Committee.



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2.4. ELIGIBILITY (INCLUDES NOVICE)

Subject to meeting the conditions outlined in COP 1.2., the eligibility of players to enter BN Championships shall be as per BT Eligibility for Championships.

- (a) **Open Events:** all affiliated members of the BN for whom the event is designated.
- (b) **Minor Events:** all affiliated members of the BN for whom the event is designated – Division 2 and below (Saturdays), and Division 3 and below (Thursdays).
- (c) All affiliated members of affiliated Clubs shall be eligible to compete in “Open” Championships.
- (d) No player shall be eligible to compete in both the “Open” and “Minor” Championship of any one event in any one season.
- (e) **NOVICE:** A novice bowler is a person who has not played in a novice Championship or Pennant competition in any previous season, in any state or territory.
- (f) **Under 18 Championships Eligibility:** Players must be under 18 years of age at the completion of the event.
- (g) If a player plays Thursday & Saturday Pennant days, the eligibility for entry to Bowls North Championship events will be decided on the highest division played. At the close of entries, if the number of games in each Pennant division are equal, the highest division played will take precedence.

2.5. DUTIES OF HOST CLUB & MATCH COMMITTEE

Where BN Competitions are to be played, the Match Manager or Match Committee shall be responsible for:

- (a) Allocation of rinks as specified by the Green Keeper.
- (b) Supplying score cards.
- (c) The host club is responsible for arranging sufficient markers (if required) and umpires. Should the host club not have a sufficient number of umpires available, the host club must advise the Match Committee at least 48 hours prior to the event and the Match Committee shall arrange additional umpires as required.
- (d) If insufficient umpires are appointed, the Club is to provide at least one umpire per green before the commencement of play.



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2.6. NO SHOWS AT BOWLS NORTH COMPETITIONS

- (a) Any player that has nominated to play in any BN controlled Championship event must notify the Match Committee or BN Secretary at least 24 hours prior to the commencement of the game if they are unable to play.
- (b) Failure to do so shall attract a penalty of \$50.00 unless reasonable explanation is given to the Match Committee.
- (c) If after appeal (if lodged) a player is found guilty of an offence, they will have 14 days to pay the fine, after receiving written notice of the penalty.
- (d) All infringement notices shall be sent by the BN Secretary with fines to be remitted to the BN Treasurer.
- (e) The Match Committee reserves the right to refuse entry to future BN championship events.

2.7. FORFEITURE

- (a) Should any team or player fail to be in a position to commence play 30 minutes after the scheduled starting time, the match will be forfeited to their opponent.
- (b) Should a team play a non-eligible player in a competition, any games played by that team shall be regarded as a forfeit.

2.8. TRIAL ENDS & PRACTICE

- (a) One trial end each way, to a bare jack, using the number of bowls which are to be used in the match, shall be permitted before the first game of the day, provided that the trial ends, if still in progress at the scheduled starting time, shall cease immediately. When players are required to transfer to another green, they shall be allowed one trial end each way, if time permits.
- (b) If a player or team that has not yet played is due to meet a player or team that has already played on the same day, the player or team that has not yet played can practice as long as:
 - (i) The controlling authority has given approval.
 - (ii) There is enough time available without delaying the competition.
 - (iii) A rink is available that the player or team has not been drawn to play on later that day.
 - (iv) The controlling authority must allocate the rink for practice.
- (c) If a player or team has a bye, that player or team can practice in line with COP 2.8.(b).
- (d) If 2 or more players or teams are entitled to practice, they can practice together. The format of practice and the number of bowls used must be decided by the players concerned.

2.9. RESOLUTION OF TIED MATCHES

In any round of a knockout competition, when a match ends in tie, an additional end or ends shall be played until a winner is determined. In sectional play a tie is a tie, and points are shared.



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2.10. CHAMPIONSHIPS FORMAT

(a) Singles

- (i) The standard format for singles matches is 4 bowls each played in turn.

(b) Pairs

- (i) The standard format for pairs matches is crossover pairs, whereby each player shall play 4 bowls in the following order: Leads - two bowls each in turn, Skip - two bowls each in turn, and then repeat this order of play.
- (ii) Alternatively, competitions may be played as 3 bowls pairs where each player shall play 3 bowls each in turn.
- (iii) The format for the event must be specified on the entry form.

(c) Triples

- (i) The standard format for triples matches is 2 bowl triples, whereby each player shall play two bowls each in turn, in order of position.
- (ii) Alternatively, competitions may be played as 3 bowls triples where each player plays 3 bowls each instead of two.
- (iii) The format for the event must be specified on the entry form.

(d) Fours

- (i) The standard format for fours matches is 2 bowls each in turn, in order of position.

2.11. DURATION OF MATCHES

THE BELOW IS TO BE USED AS A GUIDELINE. ENDS TO BE PLAYED MAY BE ALTERED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE MATCH COMMITTEE.

A time limit of 2 hours from the scheduled starting time will apply for all games up to Semi Finals. No time limit will apply for Semi Finals and Grand Finals. Where a game is incomplete when the time limit is reached, the game will finish upon completion of a live end following the time limit expiry.

(a) Singles - Men's, Women's and Minor

- All games 21 shots up

(b) Pairs - Men's & Women's, Minor & Mixed

- Sectional and post sectional up to Semi Finals 12 ends
- Knock out up to Semi Finals 15 ends
- Semi Finals & Grand Final 15 ends



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(c) Triples – Men’s, Women’s and Minor

- Sectional and post sectional up to Semi Finals 18 ends
- Knock out up to Semi Finals 18 ends
- Semi Finals & Grand Final 21 ends

(d) Fours - Men’s, Women’s and Minor

- Sectional and post sectional up to Grand Final 15 ends
- Knock out up to Grand Final 15 ends
- Semi Finals & Grand Final 18 ends

(e) Under 18 Championships

ENDS PLAYED IN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS MAY BE ALTERED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE BN JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT OFFICER(S).

- **Singles** Sectional 18 up
- **Pairs** Sectional (Crossover or 3 bowls pairs) 12 ends
Post Sectional 12 ends
Final 15 ends

2.12. MINIMUM ENTRIES

- (a) A minimum of 4 entries must be received for an event to be conducted.
- (b) Where less than 8 entries are received, prize money will be awarded to winners only (excludes Under 18 events).
- (c) If less than 12 entries are received for an event which is advertised as sectional play, the event may revert to a knockout competition at the discretion of the Match Committee (excludes Under 18 events).

2.13. STARTING TIMES

Starting times will be determined by the Match Committee (or the Match Manager).

2.14. POSTPONEMENTS

In the event of any match being postponed because of inclement weather, or light, or the green being declared unfit for play, the match shall be played or continued at a time and place to be decided by the Match Committee. In the case of an incomplete match, it shall be resumed with the scores at the adjournment.

2.15. GAME STOPPAGES

All matches are to be played without a rest break. This does not include breaks required due to weather conditions in line with COP 3.16(c) and the BA Weather policy.



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2.16. POINTS ALLOCATION & DETERMINING A SECTIONAL WINNER

- (a) In sectional play, teams will receive 2 points for a win, 1 point for a draw, 0 points for a loss. Teams who receive a bye or a forfeit will also receive 2 points, and a +4 shots differential to be added to their total net shots for all games.
- (b) Section winners shall be decided on game points, but if 2 or more teams share top position with equal points, the team with the largest difference between total shots for and total shots against shall be the winner. If the net margin is still equal, the Controlling Body will divide the total of shots scored against each player, team or side into the total of shots it has scored. The player, team or side with the highest result will be declared the winner. If the percentage is equal then the player, team, or side with the highest number of ends won will be declared the winner.

2.17. CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS OPEN SINGLES

Bowls North will hold the Qualifying events under BA Conditions of Play for the current season club's winners of the Open Singles events. Club's finals of this event must be completed, and the winner named on entry form prior to the closing date to be eligible to participate in this event.

The format for this event will be as per BA/BT Conditions of Play for the event.

Attire: BN Approved Club uniform - Winner will represent BN in the BT qualifying events.

2.18. CODE OF CONDUCT

The player Code of Conduct includes abusive language, dissension, conduct unbecoming, or actions which would bring the game of bowls into disrepute. The administration of this condition is to be applied in accordance with the BA Code of Conduct document.



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SECTION 3. BN THURSDAY AND SATURDAY PENNANT COMPETITIONS

These rules shall apply to all pennant competitions separately, unless otherwise stated.

Refer to Appendix B for a summary of Match Manager duties and responsibilities.

3.1. PENNANT FORMAT

(a) BN Pennant (excludes East Coast)

- (i) BN Pennant format is 3 rinks of 4 players playing 2 bowls each for both Saturday and Thursday Pennant competitions, except for the lowest Division in Saturday Pennant.
- (ii) Format for the lowest Division in Saturday Pennant is 2 rinks of 4 players playing 2 bowls each.
- (iii) To register a Club side in the lowest Division there must be a minimum of nine registered players for Thursday Pennant and six registered players for Saturday Pennant.
- (iv) Penalty for a pennant side withdrawal – Clubs will incur a financial penalty of \$500 if a side is withdrawn after the draw is published. This includes clubs penalised under COP 3.3.(a).
- (v) Clubs shall ensure that players who only play Thursday Pennant or Saturday Pennant are selected before allowing any players to play in both Pennant competitions in the same calendar week.

(b) East Coast Pennant

East Coast Pennant format shall be set independently by the East Coast Match Committee. Currently noted variations to these Conditions of Play (subject to alteration by East Coast Match Committee) are as follows.

- (i) Format:
 - Starting time roll up 11 am for 11.15 am start.
 - Sides to consist of up to 16 players = 4 teams of 4 players.
 - Sides can have up to 20 players = 4 teams of 5 players. With 1 player sharing a position and only one substitution per rink.
 - Substitutes can only play as a lead or second in a rink.
- (ii) Scoring for sixteen (16) player game: (Total of 14 points)
 - 6 points for a win overall, 3 points for a draw overall
 - 2 points per rink win, 1 point per rink for a draw



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(iii) Eligibility:

- St. Helens Division 2 players. - Once a player has played 12 games in the Bowls North Pennant competition, they are ineligible to play in the East Coast Pennant competition

3.2. ATTIRE

Refer also to COP 1.9 and 1.10

Sides members must be in Club uniform as approved by Bowls North and adhere to the BA National Merchandise Program Logo policy. Change or deletion of sponsors logo on BN Clubs approved uniform is permitted. Uniforms may differ.

New players in the club's lowest division may be permitted to wear a plain white BA logo top in special circumstances. Permission must be sought and obtained from the Match Committee for any player who is unable to wear club uniform prior to the day of play. Requests must be submitted in writing.

3.3. REPEATED FORFEITS

- (a) Any side that forfeits 3 consecutive games in any Division shall forfeit its rights to participate in any further games in that season and shall lose all Pennant points accrued.
- (b) Any side that forfeits 3 times in a season will be relegated to the next lowest division in the following season.
- (c) Should a club have more than 2 players absent from its Pennant sides due to representative games at BN, BT or BA level; either as selected players, selectors, or Match Manager; and that club is forced to forfeit in its lowest Division, that forfeit shall count in the allocation of Pennant points, but shall not be counted as a forfeit towards the allowable number of forfeits before the club is disqualified from playing in that Division.
- (d) Any forfeits by a club shall be in the lowest Division in which that Club participates.

3.4. DURATION OF MATCHES

Except as otherwise provided in these Conditions of Play, the duration of Pennant matches shall be:

- Thursday Pennant 21 ends
- Saturday Pennant 21 ends

Ends for East Coast Pennant shall be set independently by the East Coast Match Committee.



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3.5. PRACTICE

- (a) Players may practice on the green they are playing on, on any available rink **including** the rinks the game is scheduled to be played on.
- (b) Practice must cease 30 minutes prior to the commencement of play.
- (c) The visiting side must be given access to at least half of the available practice rinks.
- (d) Players from both the home and visiting sides may practice on the same rink.

3.6. DRAW FOR RINKS

The opposing Match Managers shall draw for rinks at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time, and teams shall play as drawn. The home Match Manager shall toss to determine who controls the mat for the first end.

3.7. UMPIRES

The host club shall appoint an umpire at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time. Should the host club not have an accredited umpire available, an accredited umpire from the visiting side(s) should be appointed. If an accredited umpire is not available, a competent person should be appointed.

Match Managers must not act as Umpires.

3.8. NOMINATED GREENS MANAGER

A suitable person shall be appointed by the home club as their nominated Greens Manager for all games hosted at the club.

3.9. STARTING TIME, DESIGNATED BREAKS AND NO SHOWS

- (a) Thursday matches will start at 11am and are to be played straight through. A 15 minute break may be taken at an agreed time by prior agreement between the Match Managers before the commencement of play. If a break is agreed upon, this must be communicated to all players prior to the start of play.

Saturday matches will start at 1pm and are to be played straight through. A 15 minute break may be taken at an agreed time by prior agreement between the Match Managers before the commencement of play. If a break is agreed upon, this must be communicated to all players prior to the start of play.

Start time and the day of play may be varied by mutual consent of participating Match Managers at least 24 hours in advance of the game. Where the day of play is to be altered the BN Secretary must be advised at least 24 hours prior to the rescheduled starting time to allow changes to the Bowlslink Portal to be undertaken.

East Coast Pennant starting time and break conditions shall be set independently by the East Coast Match Committee.



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- (b) If a side is not on the green ready to play 30 minutes after the scheduled starting time, the side shall forfeit the match to the opposing side.
- (c) **DIV 2 & 4 STARTING TIME** - For games involving **St Helens ONLY**, the starting time for both home and away games will be 12.30pm (12.15pm roll up)

3.10. SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS/SOCIAL SUBSTITUTES

Where a club has a temporary shortage of its own members to fill its entire pennant sides the club may borrow up to three eligible players (1 in each rink in pennant) from other clubs. Substitute players may only be included in the club's lowest side. Substitute players shall be designated by 'Substitute' on the Bowls Link Portal. Substitute players may play in any position other than skip.

- (a) Clubs can use up to 3 of their members who are not registered with BN to play as a social substitute. Social substitutes will be subject to the standard rules applicable for any substitute. Players used as social substitutes must not have been registered with BN in any previous season.

Social substitutes may play a maximum of 2 games in any BN Pennant competitions before any capitation fees are required to be paid to BN.

- (b) Clubs must have 9 of their own members (6 for an 8 player competition) to compete in BN Pennant matches, which can include 3 social substitutes.
- (c) Substitute player form must be sent to the BN Secretary by 7pm on the day of play.
- (d) If substitute players are required for BN Finals, they must meet all eligibility requirements as outlined in COP 3.21.
- (e) Games played as a substitute, including social substitutes, shall count towards qualification and eligibility requirements for BN Pennant and finals.

3.11. PLAYING ONE PLAYER SHORT

- (a) When nominating pennant sides, clubs must fill all higher division sides before considering the need for replacement players in their lowest division (refer COP 3.3.(d)). Only if a nominated player withdraws (for a legitimate reason) later than 3 hours before the scheduled pennant starting time shall the side in any division be able to play "one short" as per Domestic Regulations DR2.6.1:
 - *2.6.1.1 A team with an absent player plays as though the second is the missing player.*
 - *2.6.1.2 The order of play shall be maintained by the second in the complete team playing consecutive bowls.*
 - *2.6.1.3 Each player must use the number of bowls specified in the conditions of play for that event.*

Withdrawals earlier than 3 hours before starting time must be filled by promoting lower division players or calling on replacement players for the lowest division, if unavailable the lowest division side shall then play "one short" in as many teams (rinks) as necessary.



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- (b) If a game commences with 4 players in a rink and subsequently one of the players becomes ill or cannot continue for other reasons and there are no substitutes available, the game can continue with 3 players in that team as per DR2.6.1.

3.12. SHARING OF A POSITION

NOTE: The aim of this Condition of Play is to keep older and/or less healthy players playing bowls longer. Approval for "Sharing" of a position will only be given if this aim is the over-riding reason for seeking approval for "sharing" of a position.

- (a) If a player believes that they may be unable to complete a pennant game, an eligible alternative player from the same club shall be permitted to "share" the game with that player.
- (b) "Sharing" a position means one player at each end and bowling on alternate ends.
- (c) "Sharing" a position is only permitted in Bowls North pennant games in a club's lowest division. Alternative player must be from the same division.
- (d) The name of the eligible alternative player is to be noted on the score card but is not to be entered into the Bowls Link Results Portal. The player whose name is on the score card will be the only player who will be deemed to have played the game in determining eligibility to play finals. To ensure that all players are eligible to play finals, it is suggested that the names on the score cards be alternated each week.
- (e) No "Sharing" of a position shall be permitted unless it is approved in writing by the BN Match Committee and confirmed in writing by the BN Secretary prior to occurring.
- (f) Player's "Sharing" a position are only to play lead or second.

East Coast Pennant position sharing conditions shall be set independently by the East Coast Match Committee. Refer COP 3.1

3.13. CANCELLATIONS

- (a) When a decision against the commencement of play is reached before the arrival of the visiting side or sides, such decision shall be promptly telephoned to the visiting club/s concerned.
- (b) Should the nominated Greens Manager of the host club close the greens for pennant play, no bowls of any kind, including practice, shall be allowed on those greens until 2 hours after the scheduled starting time on that day.
- (c) No greens should be closed or play abandoned due to extreme heat, more than 2 ½ hours before play should start on a pennant day. Penalties may occur at the discretions of the Match Committee.
- (d) Both Match Managers are to ensure that their teams are entered onto the Bowls Link Portal on the event of a cancellation. This includes when a round is washed out.
- (e) If more than half the games for any Division in a round are not played due to inclement weather, all games for that Division in that round shall be considered to be washed out.



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3.14. COMMENCEMENT

At the scheduled time for commencement of play, if the nominated Greens Manager has not ruled to the contrary, the start of play is in the hands of the Match Managers of the respective sides.

3.15. CHOICE OF SURFACE

- (a) All greens are available for Pennant play including grass, synthetic and indoor/undercover.
- (b) It is the responsibility of visiting clubs to contact the home club to clarify which green will be used for pennant play.

3.16. WEATHER CONDITONS

(a) Before Starting

Match Managers MUST NOT make the decision to play a reduced number of ends prior to the start of game

- (i) Before play commences, if the weather is inclement, the Match Managers should confer and decide whether the start of play should be delayed until the situation improves, or the green becomes unserviceable.
- (ii) Play should not be abandoned at this stage and a decision should be delayed whilst there is a reasonable prospect for the weather to improve sufficiently to allow the game to be completed.
- (iii) If, owing to inclement weather, play has not commenced 1 ½ hours after the normal scheduled time for the commencement of play, it should be abandoned.
- (iv) In the event of a disagreement between the Match Managers as to whether play will commence, the Umpire will decide.
- (v) In extreme heat being forecast, starting time may be changed by agreement by opposing sides. Refer COP 3.13.(c).

(b) After starting

- (i) After play has commenced, the Umpire is in control of the game.
- (ii) **Postponement should take precedence over abandonment** whilst the time remaining is sufficient to allow for the match to be completed to a minimum number of ends as per COP3.18.

(c) Extreme heat/smoke

The following applies for BN Championships and Pennant

- (i) When temperature reaches 34 degrees, play should be interrupted at 20 minute intervals (at the completion of the end of play) for a period of 5 minutes, during which time drinks should be made available. Any time limit imposed on the interrupted match will be waived.
- (ii) Where the temperature reaches 36 degrees it is recommended that play is suspended until such time as temperature is below 32 degrees.



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- (iii) The umpire of the day and match managers should take notice of the conditions and monitor the heat effect on players.
 - (iv) If any area is affected by bushfire smoke, the umpire of the day shall monitor the effects on players and make decisions to delay or abandon play as deemed necessary.
- (d) The Official Umpire when making any decision in relation to COP 3.16. should have due regard to the time remaining for play.

Clubs MUST adhere to the BA Weather policy as published on the BA website. This is to be read as referring conditions at the venue where the match is being played.

3.17. RE-COMMENCEMENT

Should play be postponed, it should be re-commenced at the earliest possible time, having regard to playing conditions. If the nominated Greens Manager considers that continuation of play will have an adverse effect on the green, they may close the green.

3.18. INCOMPLETE MATCHES

Other than in finals if inclement weather, bad light, or any other justifiable cause prevents the conclusion of any Pennant match, the result may be determined providing an aggregate of at least 45 ends have been completed (30 ends for an 8 player competition).

If match is abandoned before 45 ends (30 ends for an 8 player competition) the match shall be deemed as a washout.

3.19. MATCH SCORING (INCLUDING END OF SEASON ADJUSTMENTS)

Unless the Board determines otherwise the results of each match shall be scored as follows:

- (a) The match points: Win 6 points, Draw 3 points, loss nil.
The rink points: Win 2 points, Draw 1 point, loss nil.
Washed out game = half of available points to each side
- (b) No points to be allotted for byes in rounds where all sides participate equally.
- (c) In rounds where there is an inequality, those sides receiving byes will be allotted point and shots at the end of the season equal to the average number of points and shots received from all games played during the season. If this results in a negative number of shots the award shots shall be nil.
- (d) At the end of the season in the event of two sides having the same number of points, their order shall be determined by dividing "total shots for" by "total shots against" for each side, the highest % finishes on top.



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3.20. TRANSMISSION OF RESULTS – BOWLSLINK PORTAL

- (a) The Bowlslink Portal is compulsory.
 - (i) Players names must be entered on the portal thirty (30) minutes before commencement of play.
 - (ii) Results must be entered by the home team immediately after the conclusion of the pennant matches.
 - (iii) The away team must confirm the results on the Portal by 5 pm on Thursdays, 7pm on Saturdays.
 - (iv) Failure to abide by any of the above will result in penalties as per COP 1.8
- (b) The receiving side of a forfeited game must enter sides on the Bowlslink Portal prior to the scheduled starting time of the pennant match or upon notification of the forfeit.
- (c) In the event of a washed-out game, the Match Manger of each side must immediately enter teams onto Bowlslink Portal at the notification of cancellation of the scheduled pennant match.
- (d) Should results be entered onto the Bowlslink Portal and be confirmed as correct by both Match Managers, but it is later discovered that the results are in fact incorrect, the Match Committee can (subject to the impact on overall season results) either:
 - (i) Instruct the Statistician / BN Secretary to alter the results; or
 - (ii) Instruct the Statistician / BN Secretary to leave the results as entered.

3.21. ELIGIBILITY – THURSDAY & SATURDAY PENNANT AND FINALS

- (a) To be eligible to play in BN finals, a player must have played at least 6 games in that pennant competition in the current season. Games played as a substitute/social substitute shall be counted towards this eligibility requirement.
- (b) Once a player has played 12 games in a specific division of a pennant competition, including finals games, they are ineligible to play any further games in a lower division. This includes both BN and BT finals. Where a club has two sides in any one Division, the logic of rules this clause shall apply to each side individually – i.e. once a player has played 12 games in any one side, they are ineligible to play any games in the other side.
- (c) Once a player has played three of the last six Pennant games in any combination of higher divisions, they are ineligible to play any further games in a lower division. This includes both BN and BT finals.
- (d) Clubs may apply to the Match Committee for special dispensation under these rules. Such requests must be submitted in writing to the BN secretary at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled game time, and a detailed explanation why dispensation is sought must be provided. Dispensation shall only be granted in exceptional circumstances.
- (e) The penalty for playing an ineligible player under any condition covered in this clause is the loss of all points for the game in which the infringement occurs, and all points shall be awarded to the opponent.



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3.22. COMPETING REPRESENTATIVE MATCH

- (a) If a player is chosen in a BN representative side and/or makes themselves unavailable to play, they shall be ineligible to play (except in exceptional circumstances accepted by the Board) in any Pennant held while the BN team is travelling or playing. The penalty for infringement shall be forfeiture of the game by the side for which they play.

3.23. DRAWN FINALS MATCH

If at the end of the specified number of ends, a finals match ends in a tie, each team making up the side shall play an additional end against the same opponent, on the same rink, on the same day if practicable, to achieve a result. If at the conclusion of the additional end, a further end or ends shall be played as above until a result is achieved. (Refer Laws of the Sport of Bowls 28)

3.24. ONE GAME PER ROUND

A player may only play in one Pennant side in any one scheduled round of pennant games (i.e., if all divisions or games within a division are not played on the same day, a player may play in only one division/game in that round). This includes acting as a replacement or substitute player under COP 3.10.

3.25. FINALS

- (a) Finals play shall be arranged as follows for all Divisions as per the following format:
- (i) If competition includes 5 or more sides, top 4 to contest finals:
- The sides finishing third and fourth on the ladder shall play in the First Semi Final. The loser of this game shall be eliminated from the Finals series.
 - The sides finishing first and second on the ladder shall play in the Second Semi Final.
 - The winner of the First Semi Final shall play the loser of the Second Semi Final in the Preliminary Final. The winner of this game shall play the winner of the Second Semi Final in the Grand Final.
- (ii) If competition includes 4 sides, top 3 to contest finals:
- The Home & Away Pennant ladder leader progresses straight into the Grand Final.
 - The sides finishing second and third on the ladder will play off for the position in the Grand Final.
- (b) Pennant finals starting time is as per pennant starting time. A 15 minute break may be taken by mutual agreement as per COP 3.9(a).
- (c) The Match Committee, following recommendations from the BN Greens Committee re quality greens, will select greens and make all arrangements necessary for the conduct of the final series. Final venues will be allocated approximately two (2) weeks before the start of the final's series. Host clubs must provide a Match Manager.



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- (d) Umpires for all final matches shall be appointed by the Bowls North Match Committee with consultation with the Umpires Panel.
- (e) The Host Club's Match Manager will do the Draw for teams and rinks with cards being placed face down and mixed for each side prior to rink numbering on the cards. The Host Club's Match Manager shall also regularly update the main total shots scoreboard throughout each final.
- (f) Inclement weather for Finals; The game must be completed at least one day prior to the next scheduled game. If this is not achieved the team with highest points will be the winner provided that 45 ends have been completed. If neither of the above happens, the team finishing the higher on the Pennant ladder shall be declared the winner.

3.26. PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

(a) Promotion

The club finishing top of the ladder after the home and away season is eligible to be promoted.

Where a club already has a side in the higher division, the club will have the choice if they wish for the side to be promoted to that division. Should they not wish to have two sides in that division they can forfeit their right for promotion. Should this occur, the order of consideration for promotion shall be the side winning the pennant grand final, followed by the side finishing second on the ladder, followed by the side finishing runner up in the grand final. Club choice will apply in all instances where this may result in a club having two sides in the division.

The above logic is also to be applied where more than one side is to be promoted by virtue of multiple relegations.

(b) Relegation

The club finishing on the bottom of the ladder in each division after the home and away season will be relegated to the next lowest division, except for the lowest division, in each pennant competition.

Where a club already has a side in the division they are being relegated to, that club shall have the choice if they wish to have two sides in that division. Should they not wish to have two sides in that division, one of their sides must be relegated to the next lower division.

NOTE: The Match Committee will have final discretion over promotion and relegation. The Match Committee has the authority to adjust promotion and relegation conditions at any time throughout the season.



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3.27. PLAYING OF MUSIC

If music is played during a Pennant game, it should not impact on the conduct of the game and be at a level acceptable to Match Managers of all sides playing at the venue.

3.28. DUMPING OF BOWLS

The BA Greens Protection Policy as amended from time to time will apply to all Bowls North Events. The policy outlines actions that can be taken by clubs or Bowls North against players who “dump” their bowls and in doing so cause damage to greens.



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APPENDIX A - SELECTION OF GREENS FOR MAJOR EVENTS

Objective

The objective of this policy is to provide the most appropriate greens and equipment for the conduct of BN championships, BN Pennant Finals and BT events.

Responsibility

The allocation of greens is the responsibility of the BN Match Committee, under the guidance of the BN Greens Committee.

Process

- The results of regular green inspections by the BN Greens Committee during the playing season will be forwarded to the BN Match Committee, including a rating of greens, on a regular basis during the bowls season.
- The allocation of greens will not be influenced by the geographic location of the club and greens.
- There shall be no discrimination in favour of either natural, synthetic, indoor, undercover or uncovered surfaces.
- Events will be allocated to clubs at least two weeks prior to the scheduled date of the event.
- Only those clubs who maintain an acceptable standard both with their greens and equipment will be considered. Clubs should be rewarded for their effort in reaching the required standard.

Clubs are reminded that it is a condition of renewal of membership with the Association, under Section 11.3(b) of the Bowls North Constitution, that the Club make their greens available for the playing of any competition or game under the control of the Association.



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APPENDIX B - MATCH MANAGERS GUIDELINES

MATCH MANAGER must be a playing member of the pennant side and duties for BN pennant games (both Thursday & Saturday) are –

- **Prepare Score Cards** for own side only. Visiting Match Manager to take their completed score cards to the venue.
- **Appoint an “umpire” in line with COP 3.7.**
- **Draw for opponents** and rinks of play with the opposing side manager or his delegate at least thirty minutes prior to the scheduled starting time.
- **Toss for opening play.** The Home Match manager/s shall toss a coin and the winner of the toss shall decide who has the option to play first. The result and decision apply to all teams.
- At the end of the game, collect all score cards, ensuring they have been signed by both sides competing, and the time that the pennant match finished recorded.
- The Home Match Manager is to **complete the results** on Bowls Link Portal, ensuring all players information is correct and visiting Match manger is to confirm that the information recorded on Bowls Link Portal is correct.
- **Substitute players – Refer COP 3.10. Substitute players designated by ‘Substitute’ on the Bowls Link Portal**
- A summary of any disputes /complaints during the game must be documented on Club Letterhead and signed by the Match Manager.
- **Thursday** - A detailed report of the dispute/complaint must be emailed to the-BN Secretary **NO LATER THAN** the following **Sunday by 8pm** after the game.
- **Saturday** - A detailed report of the dispute/complaint must be emailed to the BN Secretary **NO LATER THAN** the following **Tuesday by 8pm** after the game.
- **Score Cards from all pennant matches need to be retained by the Club for the entire season including games that are washed out/cancelled.**
- Match Managers should be familiar with all Conditions of Play, **especially 3.16 (Weather Conditions)**
- In the event of a **cancelled game** Refer COP 3.13.

Match Managers to ensure their players abide by the **Attire (COP 3.2), Refer to the Bowls Australia Smoke Free Policy and the Department of Health and Human Services- Smoke Free areas.**



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INFRINGEMENT - PLAYER REPORT

The following player has been reported formally for breaching the Bowls North policy as contained in the Conditions of Play:

Player Surname.....

Other Name/s

Breach (Please Specify)
.....
.....
.....

Player's Club.....

Date & Venue of breach.....

Competition/Event being played.....

Was the Player warned? Yes No

By whom..... Title.....(Umpire/Side Captain)

Was the Player issued with a copy of this Infringement Report Yes

Name of Official making the Player Report.....

Signature..... Date.....


This report should be completed on the day of the infringement and must be sent to Bowls North P.O. Box 909 Launceston or ntbowls@bigpond.net.au within 48 hours of the infringement. A written report is to be received also.




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SUBSTITUTE PLAYER FORM

 <small>ABN 26 501 955 192</small>		SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS	
DATE:	_____		
DIVISION:	_____	THURS/SAT (PLEASE CIRCLE)	
SOCIAL PLAYER SUBSTITUTE:		YES	NO (PLEASE CIRCLE)
	NAME:	_____	
	CLUB:	_____	
	ID NUMBER:	_____	

 <small>ABN 26 501 955 192</small>		SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS	
DATE:	_____		
DIVISION:	_____	THURS/SAT (PLEASE CIRCLE)	
SOCIAL PLAYER SUBSTITUTE:		YES	NO (PLEASE CIRCLE)
	NAME:	_____	
	CLUB:	_____	
	ID NUMBER:	_____	



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SCORING SYSTEM FOR BOWLS NORTH BOWLER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Each player shall be awarded points as follows for reaching the Quarter Finals and beyond in Open/Minor Championships.

EVENT	WINNER(S)	RUNNERS UP	LOSING SEMI-FINALISTS	LOSING QUARTER FINALISTS
SINGLES	37	23	12	9
PAIRS	31	20	10	7
TRIPLES	25	17	8	5
FOURS	19	14	6	3
MIXED PAIRS	31	20	10	7

Players who participate in all five (5) Bowls North Championship events shall receive a bonus of ten (10) points.