



# 2021 – Conditions of Play

**As approved 11 January 2021**

**To take effect from 1 January 2021**

***Edit 28 October 2020.***

Corrected autonumbering issues

***Edit 11 January 2021***

Amended restricting Movement of Players (remove ambiguity and clarify intent)  
Amend 3.8.23.10 to include new clause (i) and renumber existing clauses.

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## **1. Introduction**

All matches will be played in accordance with the Laws and these Conditions of Play.

These Conditions of Play shall govern the conduct of Association Events. They apply to the State as a whole but may be varied, on written application, through the Zone to the State Match Committee. Such application must be made a minimum of 14 days prior to the commencement of any Association event.

Inevitably situations will arise that are not specifically covered by these Conditions of Play. It is expected that in such circumstances any decision taken will reflect the spirit of these Conditions and embody the ideals of fair play and good sportsmanship supported by good common sense.

Amendments may occur to this document, as and when necessary. Refer Bowls NSW website ([www.bowlsnsw.com.au](http://www.bowlsnsw.com.au)) and Circulars. The current Conditions of Play will be published on the Bowls NSW website.

### **1.1. Interpretation**

The following rules shall apply in the interpretation of these Conditions of Play:

- a) Headings are for convenience only and do not affect interpretation.
- b) Any reference to a gender includes a reference to all genders.
- c) The singular includes the plural and vice versa.
- d) Where a word or phrase is defined, its other grammatical forms have corresponding meanings.
- e) A reference to a rule or sub-rule is to a rule or sub-rule, as the case may be, of these Conditions of Play unless stated to the contrary.
- f) A reference to a schedule, annexure or appendix is a reference to a schedule, annexure or appendix of these Conditions of Play unless stated to the contrary.
- g) A mention of anything after "include", "includes" or "including" does not limit what else might be included.

## 2. Administration & Organisation

### 2.1. Terms & Definitions

In these Conditions of Play the following capitalised terms and the following non-capitalised terms shall have the corresponding meanings unless otherwise stated. In addition, capitalised terms used in these Conditions of Play which are defined in the Constitution of Bowls NSW shall have the same meaning when used in these Conditions of Play unless otherwise stated.

#### 2.1.1. **Affiliated Member**

Means a player who is registered with a State or Territory Association as a member of a club affiliated with that State or Territory Association.

#### 2.1.2. **Affiliated Sub-Club**

Means an unincorporated bowling sub-club of an incorporated entity, such as a licensed club, with such rights as set out in the Regulations as amended from time to time.

#### 2.1.3. **Appeals Tribunal**

Means the Appeals Tribunal of Bowls NSW as established by the Board of Bowls NSW.

#### 2.1.4. **Association**

Means Bowls NSW -See 2.1.12.

#### 2.1.5. **Association Events**

Means events which are under the control of these Conditions of Play, which are listed in condition 2.2.4.

#### 2.1.6. **Association Event Attire Policy**

Means the Association Event Attire Policy available on the Bowls NSW website.

#### 2.1.7. **Attire**

Means articles of clothing as worn by players during Association Events in accordance with the Association Event Attire Policy.

#### 2.1.8. **BA**

Means Bowls Australia Incorporated, the Australian national governing body for the sport of lawn bowls.

#### 2.1.9. **Board**

Means the Board of Bowls NSW.

#### 2.1.10. **Bowling Member**

Means a natural person who has paid the appropriate membership fees, if any, to a Club for the current financial year and who is entitled to play bowls at that Club by virtue of their membership and is registered with Bowls NSW as a member of that club.

#### 2.1.11. **Bowling Season**

Means the period that commences January 1st and concludes the following December 31st in each year.

#### 2.1.12. **Bowls NSW**

Means the Royal NSW Bowling Association Limited, trading as "Bowls NSW".



2.1.13. **Clearance and Registration Transfer Application**

Means an application to Bowls NSW to transfer the registration of a player between Clubs.

2.1.14. **Cleared**

Means that a player's Clearance and Registration Transfer Application form has been lodged with and accepted by Bowls NSW.

2.1.15. **Club and sub-club**

Means both Member Clubs and Affiliated Sub-Clubs.

2.1.16. **Competition**

Means a specific bowls event under the control of these Conditions of Play, or under the control of Bowls NSW.

2.1.17. **Completion Date**

Means the last date on which play in a specific competition is scheduled.

2.1.18. **Conditions of Play**

Means the rules governing how a competition is played.

2.1.19. **Constitution**

Means the Constitution of Bowls NSW.

2.1.20. **Controlling Body**

Means the body with immediate control over the Conditions of Play for that competition.

Authority may be delegated under the Conditions of Play to the Controlling Body of the Zone, which may in turn delegate to the District and/or host Club for the conduct of Association events.

2.1.21. **Controlling Body Representative**

Means the person(s) appointed to act as and represent the Controlling Body during play of an Association Event.

2.1.22. **Declared Club**

Means the Club with which a player shall play their Association Events in a Bowling Season in accordance with these Conditions of Play.

2.1.23. **District**

Means a division of a Zone as recognised under the Constitution and Regulations of Bowls NSW.

2.1.24. **Geographic Draws**

Means a draw is established with consideration to geographical location of participants.

2.1.25. **Host Venue**

Means the Club on whose green matches within a competition are to be played.

2.1.26. **International / Interstate Event**

Means an event played between National representatives or State (or Territory) representatives, respectively.

2.1.27. **Junior Bowler**

Means a bowler who is under the age of 18 years as at the completion date of the competition.

2.1.28. **Justifiable Cause**

Means unforeseen or urgent circumstances which would cause serious detriment and disadvantage to participants in the absence of the postponement of the playing of an Association Event under those circumstances.

2.1.29. **Laws**

Means the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

Crystal Mark 3rd Edition, Version 3.2 June 2020 and including Domestic Regulations for play in Australia and as amended, modified or replaced from time to time.

2.1.30. **Match Committee**

Means the Controlling Body of Bowls NSW or of a Zone, District or Club as the case may be.

2.1.31. **Matches and matches**

Means a game or games of bowls played within a competition.

2.1.32. **Member Club**

Means a club who is recognised as a member of Bowls NSW in accordance with the Constitution and Regulations.

2.1.33. **National Umpire**

Means a person who holds a current accreditation as a Lawn Bowls umpire.

2.1.34. **Order of Precedence**

Means the priority for matches to be played in accordance with these Conditions of Play as set out herein.

2.1.35. **Over 40s Eligibility**

Means a bowler who is aged 40 years or over AND 59 years or under (see separate Over 40s Conditions of Play).

2.1.36. **Previous Season Grading**

Means the established grade of a player during their previous Bowling Season.

2.1.37. **Replacement Player**

Means a player approved to take the place of a constituted player in a competition in accordance with these Conditions of Play.

2.1.38. **Substitute**

Means a player approved to play in place of an unavailable player in accordance with these Conditions of Play.

2.1.39. **Player and player**

Means any Bowling Member and any Junior Bowling Member participating in an Association Event.

2.1.40. **Regulations**

Means any regulations of Bowls NSW.

2.1.41. **Policy**

Means any policy of Bowls NSW.

2.1.42. **Senior Bowler**

Means a bowler who is aged 60 years or over as at 1 January 2021 (Born on or before 1 January 1961).

2.1.43. **State**

Means New South Wales, Bowls NSW or other State or Territory Bowling Association.

2.1.44. **State Match Committee**

Means the State Match Committee of Bowls NSW, which is the Controlling Body for all Association Events.

2.1.45. **State President's Reserve Bowler**

Means a player who has a Previous Season Grading of Grade 5, Grade 6 or Grade 7 or who has no Previous Season Grading and is not graded in the current season higher than Grade 5 at the close of entries for that Association Event.

2.1.46. **State Pennant Finals Series**

Means the series of matches played between qualifiers to determine the winner of each State Pennant.

2.1.47. **Umpires Committee or Panel**

Means the Committee or Panel that organises and/or controls the umpires within Bowls NSW, a Zone, District or Club.

2.1.48. **Unregistered Player**

Means a player who enters or plays in an Association Event and who is not registered with Bowls NSW as a member of that club.

2.1.49. **WWCC**

Means a Working with Children Check registered with Service NSW

2.1.50. **Zone**

Means a Zone Association as established under the Bowls NSW Constitution and regulations.

2.1.51. **Zone Competition**

Means a competition where control of that competition is delegated under these Conditions of Play to the Zone.

## **2.2. Administration & Organisation of Association Events**

### **2.2.1. Club, District, Zone and State Match Committee Responsibility**

Zones, Districts, and Clubs are delegated the responsibility of ensuring that Association Events are conducted in accordance with the Conditions of Play.

The relevant Match Committee is responsible for the conduct of all Association events under its control.

The relevant Match Committee, in the case of special or exceptional circumstances, may change the number of ends to be played, change the days and times of play, change greens or venues for play or make other changes as are deemed necessary to conduct and complete an event.

The relevant Match Committee shall inquire into and settle disputes concerning Association events in accordance with agreed procedures set out in these Conditions of Play or otherwise.

Appeals and disputes arising from the application of these Conditions of Play shall be determined according to the protocol through Club, then District then Zone, and then State Match Committee. The only right of appeal from a decision of the State Match Committee is to the Appeals Tribunal in accordance with the Bowls NSW Appeals Tribunal Rules.

Any Match Committee member who is a party to a dispute must not take part in any discussion/resolution of the dispute.

#### **2.2.2. Compliance with Bowls NSW Constitution, Regulations & Policies**

All Players and officials in Association Events shall be required to comply with the provisions of the Constitution, Regulations and Policies.

##### **2.2.2.1. Attire**

Players are at all times required to be attired in accordance with the Association Event Attire Policy.

#### **2.2.3. Calendars and Schedules**

Zones shall include details of the dates of play in their Bowling Program, including all details of dates (including provision for deferred matches) for ALL Association events being conducted by them. Details of dates of play should be included on entry forms for events.

Zones shall set closing dates for nomination of Club winners for Champion of Club Champions Singles and Pairs. Clubs shall complete those events by those dates.

Where a State Pennant Finals Series is being hosted within a Zone, the Zone shall not schedule any Zone Competitions on the scheduled dates for that Finals Series.

An Association event shall not commence before 1 January in a Bowling Season unless prior written permission is obtained from the State Match Committee.

Association Events commenced before 1 January with permission of State Match Committee shall, for the purpose of condition 2.3, be deemed to have been played in the nominated year of the event. Any event commenced before 1 January must be completed in the nominated Bowling Season for the event.

Zones are required to forward to State Match Committee, their season program no later than 1 November of the preceding year for approval.

##### **2.2.3.1. Results**

Zone winners must be found and names of winners, runners-up and total number of entries of Zone Championships shall be forwarded on the prescribed form and in prescribed format to reach the Association immediately after the completion of each event and before the date shown in the State Program.

#### 2.2.3.2. **Deferment of Matches**

An Association Event shall not be postponed except for inclement weather or other justifiable cause. If two events fall on the same date the one with the higher precedence will be played.

A postponed match shall be played on the next available playing date (on days/dates when matches in that competition would normally have been scheduled). See also condition 2.25.

Deferred Pennant Matches shall be played in line with the Conditions of Play specified by the Controlling Body.

#### 2.2.3.3. **Play or Forfeit**

At least six (6) days' notice of play will be given to all players prior to each match. If a player or team drawn to play cannot do so, a forfeit will apply unless:

- a) a Substitute or Replacement Player is permitted under the Bowls Australia Domestic Regulations or, condition 2.24; or
- b) the opponents, by mutual arrangement, and with the consent of the Controlling Body, agree to and do play the match prior to the commencement of the next scheduled round.

If the Controlling Body gives its consent and the match is then not able to be completed before the next scheduled round, the player(s)/team(s) that were originally unable to play on the scheduled date shall be deemed to forfeit that match.

#### 2.2.3.4. **Geographic Draws**

Geographic Draws may be conducted with permission from the State Match Committee.

#### 2.2.4. **Association Events**

Association Events are as stated below:

- a. State Pennants
- b. Club Major Singles, Pairs, Triples & Fours
- c. State Championships
- d. State Senior Championships
- e. State Junior Championships
- f. State President's Championships
- g. Inter-Zone Sides Championships
- h. Senior Inter-Zone Sides Championship
- i. Junior Inter-Zone Sides Championship
- j. Champion of Club Champions Singles & Pairs
- k. Rookies Singles and Pairs
- l. Australian Indoor Singles Championship (NSW Qualifying)
- m. Bowls NSW Club Challenge

Such other events as may be declared as Association Events by Bowls NSW.

All other events are NOT Association Events and are not governed by Bowls NSW Conditions of Play. It is the responsibility of the Controlling Body for that event to determine the Conditions of Play.

### 2.2.5. Disqualification

If a player or team is disqualified for any reason (through application of the Laws or of these Conditions of Play) the following actions shall be taken:

#### 2.2.5.1. *Sectional / Round Robin Play*

The non-offending player or team shall receive maximum points & shall be credited with the margin by which they won or +5 shots (whichever is the higher).

The Offending player or team shall be credited with 0 points.

If required, the score shall be recalculated as the offending player/team retaining their score and the non-offending player or team being credited with the (offending player/team score + 5 shots).

For Penalties in Pennant Play see condition 3.8.33.

#### 2.2.5.2. *Knockout Play*

The player, team or side LAST DEFEATED by the disqualified player, team or side, shall take the place of the player, team or side disqualified.

### 2.2.6. Entries

Nominations for an event showing the player(s) names and Bowls NSW Registration Number(s) and Club must be made to the Club, District or Zone through its secretary.

Late entries will not be accepted.

Entry fees must accompany the entry unless alternative arrangements are made with the relevant Controlling Body.

## 2.3. Eligibility

### 2.3.1. Players Eligibility

#### 2.3.1.1. *To Enter Association Events*

To enter and play an Association Event with a Club, a player shall:

- (i.) Be a registered Bowling Member of that Club;
- (ii.) Be Cleared to play at that club (if required);
- (iii.) If applicable, have a membership category at that Club that entitles them to play Association Events.

#### 2.3.1.2. *Player Changing Club*

- (i.) A player changing Club with which they are registered with Bowls NSW requires a Clearance & Registration Transfer Application (with the appropriate fee) to be submitted to Bowls NSW, as required in Bowls NSW Regulation 7.2.
- (ii.) A player changing club with which they are registered with Bowls NSW becomes ineligible to enter and continue in any event with the previous club effective from the date that the Clearance and Registration Transfer application is lodged with Bowls NSW. .
- (iv.) Once a Clearance and Registration Transfer Application is lodged with Bowls NSW the player shall cease to be eligible to enter or play in ANY Association Event in the current Bowling Season with their former club (except as provided for in condition 2.3.1.3 below) and shall become eligible to enter or play in any Association Event with their new club in which they have not already become constituted during the current

Bowling Season. A player changing club who has already played in a Pennant Match with their former club is ineligible to play Pennants with their new club except with the written permission of the State Match Committee. Such application will be considered only if:

- A player changes their place of residence, the change making travel to their declared Club impractical, or
- The player is required to change their declared Club as a condition of their employment with their prospective new Club. Employment must be full-time or a primary source of income, or
- There are other special or exceptional circumstances which apply.

Such application will not be considered if the player has attained a grading in the current season.

#### 2.3.1.2.1. *Penalty:*

- (i.) Player or team disqualified from the competition (refer Condition 2.2.5).
- (ii.) Penalties for Pennants matches applies only to the Round(s) in which an ineligible player played (refer condition 3.8.33).

#### 2.3.1.3. *Winners / Qualifiers*

Notwithstanding the foregoing, any Club, District, Zone or Association Champion always remains eligible to continue to compete in that specific event during the season, irrespective of any change of declared Club membership, provided they are registered with Bowls NSW.

#### 2.3.1.4. *Host Clubs of Events*

All players are eligible to play in Association Events unless suspended for a bowls related matter

A Player's ability to enter a host club may be limited by any disciplinary action in place by that host club.

Should a club hosting a District, Zone or State Association Event decline to allow a player entry to their club & greens:

- a) The Controlling Body shall allow a substitute or replacement player in a team game.
- b) A Singles player shall forfeit that match.
- c) That player shall not be eligible to play in a sides match, the player's club shall select another player to play in that match.

All players suspended or de-registered under Bowls NSW regulations are ineligible to participate in Association events.

## **2.4. Withdrawals or Forfeits - Players / Teams / Sides Obligations**

### **2.4.1. Withdrawal**

An intended team may withdraw before becoming constituted in that Associated Event.

The team withdrawing is regarded as having not entered the Association Event and the members of that withdrawing team are eligible to act as a substitute or replacement player in that Association Event. A team withdrawing shall give notification to the Controlling Body and Host Venue a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours before the

scheduled commencement of their first scheduled match. Notification after this time shall constitute a forfeit.

#### 2.4.2. **Forfeit**

A player or team unable to meet their/their commitment to play on a drawn playing date and to whom dispensation is not applicable shall forfeit the match to their opponents. (See also conditions 2.2.3.2, 2.2.3.3, 2.13 and 2.14).

#### 2.4.3. **Notification**

A player, team or side forfeiting or withdrawing shall notify:

- (i.) The Controlling Body - Club/District/Zone/Bowls NSW; and
- (ii.) The Venue Club

at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled commencement time of the match to be forfeited unless there is a satisfactory explanation for not doing so.

A team withdrawing shall give notification a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours before their first scheduled match. Notification after this time shall constitute a forfeit.

Notification of a forfeit is binding and may not be revoked. Should play not commence on the date of the forfeited match, the forfeit shall remain in force.

#### 2.4.4. **Penalty**

Not exceeding \$110 per player for any one offence and/or have their entry declined for any Association Event for a period of up to twelve (12) months.

##### 2.4.4.1. ***Obligation for Payment of a Fine***

Rests with the individual to pay the relevant Controlling Body.

##### 2.4.4.2. ***Non-Payment of a Fine***

A player is liable to have their entry declined for Association Events until payment is made.

## 2.5. **Championship Draws**

The draw for each Association Event should include the names of all intended players. The draw should include the scheduled dates for all matches and advise dates on which provision is made for deferred matches.

A draw sheet for an Association event shall not be added to, amended, altered, or in any way interfered with by any player.

**Penalty:** Disqualification from the Association Event.

Any permitted changes shall be made by the appropriate Controlling Body - Club / District / Zone / Bowls NSW.

A Zone Champion of Club Champions Draw may include a club name, pending receipt of the results from the club(s).

## 2.6. **Starting Times**

Starting times shall be determined by the relevant Controlling Body, considering local conditions.

#### 2.6.1. **Meal Break**

Thirty (30) minutes to be allowed between matches for meals (where applicable).



## **2.7. Late Arrivals**

If, 15 minutes after the scheduled start time for a match, one or more players is absent from a team, that team will forfeit the match to their opponents. (See also Law 39.1.2 - See also condition 2.24.7)

## **2.8. Trial Ends**

A singles player, team or side shall be allowed two (2) trial ends for each match, playing the number of bowls to be used in the event on each end. Trial ends shall be completed prior to the scheduled starting time.

The rink on which a player or team is to play shall be announced and made available for trial ends not later than twenty (20) minutes prior to the scheduled starting time.

## **2.9. Practice**

Notwithstanding condition 2.8. players may practice up to thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the match, providing that rink space is available, and the Controlling Body approves.

Players shall not practice on the rink on which their match is drawn to be played.

## **2.10. Controlling Body / Umpires**

The Controlling Body Representative for an Association Event shall not, unless unavoidable, be a contestant in the said Association Event.

The Controlling Body, through the Umpires Committee / Panel shall appoint a person currently accredited as a National Umpire to attend all Association Events. The Umpire so appointed shall not, unless unavoidable, be a contestant in the said Association Event. If there is no currently accredited National Umpire available, a person currently accredited as a Measurer should be appointed to officiate.

If no accredited official is available, the Controlling Body of the day shall appoint a suitable person to officiate.

See also condition 2.26 - Duties of Controlling Body.

## **2.11. Bowls**

Bowls NSW does not require bowls to be re-tested and re-stamped every 10 years for Bowls NSW Association Events. The World Bowls stamp on bowls used in Association Events is not required to be of a current or future year.

If a player qualifies for an event under the control of Bowls Australia, Bowls Australia requires bowls to carry a stamp of a specified date or later and shall specify the required date.

## **2.12. Bowls Stickers / Adhesive Markings**

A Club, District, Zone or Association Controlling Body may supply and require identifying bowls stickers (adhesive markings) to be used on bowls and stipulate the occasions on which they may or must be used.

Worn or faded stickers shall be removed or replaced. Bowls shall have only one layer of stickers used at any time (that is, each bowl shall have one LAYER of sticker on each side only).

Bowls stickers may cover the distinctive engraving on the bias side of the bowl (small engraving).

Stickers used by a team or side must be of the same colour scheme and design but may be of different sizes to accommodate larger engravings on bowls. (Stickers may be in more than one part, but only one layer of stickers shall be used on each side of a bowl.)

If opposing sides, teams or players have the same design or colour of markings and an alternative is not available, players in the side listed second in the draw must remove their markings.

Refer Law 52.1.8 and DR 4.7.

### **2.13. Concurrent Events**

If a player qualifies for more than one Association Event under the control of the State Match Committee, and is instructed to play in one Association Event, the player shall not be penalised through failing to attend any other Association Event which is set down to be played at the same time.

Where a player is scheduled to play in a championship event being conducted by a Controlling Body and is not able to do so because of selection to play in or officiate at an International or Interstate Event scheduled to be played at the same time, or take part in a selection trial for such an event, reasonable time being allowed for travel; the championship event should be rescheduled. If the event cannot be rescheduled the player must decide which event to contest.

### **2.14. Order of Precedence**

- (i.) This order of precedence applies to players in Clubs, Districts and Zones throughout New South Wales. Events within categories 2.14.1, 2.14.2 and 2.14.3 are of equal status in those categories.
- (ii.) Zones and Districts may arrange Inter-Zone and Inter-District events as they wish. Only the events specified herein shall have precedence.
- (iii.) Players drawn to play in matches higher in the Order of Precedence (Matches in category 2.14.1 are higher than Category 2.14.2 and so on) shall, on application prior to the matches concerned, be granted dispensation for / deferment of matches lower in the Order of Precedence. Such application to be lodged with the relevant Controlling Body at least seven (7) days prior to the event.
- (iv.) This order of precedence shall not apply for deferment of State Pennants Sectional matches except for matches affected by players selected to represent NSW or BA at the Australian Sides Championship in a playing or coaching/administrative capacity. Clubs affected (for other matches) may negotiate with their opponents for affected matches and play on an alternate date, with the approval of the relevant Controlling Body. Failing agreement, the match shall be played on the scheduled date. For deferment of matches due to Australian Sides Championship precedence, matches shall be played at a date set by the relevant Controlling Body.
- (v.) The Order of Precedence shall also apply to officials nominated by the relevant Controlling Body for matches in Categories 2.14.1 – 2.14.8 below. Officials for these events shall, on application prior to the matches concerned, be granted dispensation for / deferment of matches lower in the Order of Precedence. Such application to be lodged with the relevant Controlling Body at least seven (7) days prior to the event.
- (vi) Zones may allocate Bowls NSW events on the same weekend as other Bowls NSW events, if there are NO players affected by this Order of Preference.

**2.14.1. Bowls Australia Events**

Australian Championships. (Including Australian Indoor Singles, Australian Open, and Australian Junior Championships, including qualifying for those events)

Australian Sides Championships.

Representation in an Australian National selected Side (e.g. Trans-Tasman Series).

NOT including Development Tours or (Training) Camps.

**2.14.2. Representation**

Representation in an Inter-State selected side.

Special competitions, approved by the Association, may be specified as having any level of precedence.

**2.14.3. Bowls NSW Events**

State Pennants.

State Champion of Club Champions events.

State Singles, State Pairs, State Triples, State Fours.

Any State Age Based Championships including Junior Singles, Junior Pairs, Junior Fours, Under 25 Singles, Over 40s Pairs.

State Senior Singles, State Senior Pairs, State Senior Triples, State Senior Fours.

State President's Reserve Singles, State President's Reserve Pairs, State President's Reserve Triples, State President's Reserve Fours.

Inter Zone Sides Championship (including Senior & Junior Inter-Zone Sides Championship).

Bowls NSW Rookies Championships.

Bowls NSW Club Challenge (Regional and State Finals / Post-Sectional Matches Only).

**2.14.4. Zone Events**

Competition as in 2.14.3 above - at Zone Level.

**2.14.5. Zone Representation**

Zones are restricted to two (2) nominated Zone events for which precedence will apply. Such events shall be included in the Season Program for the Zone.

**2.14.6. District Events**

Competition as in 2.14.3 above - District Level.

**2.14.7. District Representation**

Districts are restricted to one (1) nominated District events for which precedence will apply. Such events shall be included in the Season Program for the District.

**2.14.8. Clubs**

Club Major Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours.

Zones / Districts shall nominate the events (referred to in 2.14.5 and 2.14.7 above) that the Zone / District wishes to take precedence over Club Championships within the Zone / District. Notice of such nominations shall be made in the Zone / District program of Events for the Association year.

**2.15. Markers**

- (i.) A marker shall be appointed for each singles match.

- (ii.) A marker shall be a registered Bowling Member of a Club affiliated with a State, Territory and/or National Lawn Bowls Association of a nation other than Australia.
- (iii.) A player defeated must mark in the next round scheduled on that day, if required by the Controlling Body. If more markers are available than required names shall be drawn by lot, before the first match. A substitute marker may mark.
- (iv.) A player drawn in singles sectional play must mark in any round of that sectional play if required by the Controlling Body.
- (v.) A player who has drawn a bye in knockout play must mark that round played on the same day he is drawn to play if required by the Controlling Body.
- (vi.) A player defeated in Clubs Singles match, must mark a match in the subsequent round, if required by the Club Controlling Body. If more markers are available than required names shall be drawn by lot, before the first match. A substitute marker may mark.

#### 2.15.1. **Penalty**

Failure to mark if required – Penalty shall not exceed one hundred and ten dollars (\$110) and/or have their entry declined for all Association Events for a period of up to twelve (12) months.

#### 2.16. **Greens for Play**

Clubs shall provide the best available / most suitable playing surface for Association Events.

#### 2.17. **Inclement Weather**

Bowls NSW shall observe the principles in the Bowls Australia Weather Policy.

The Club, as the Controlling Body, may decide to cancel a match prior to its commencement, or during play, if they believe that the weather is not likely to be suitable for play to commence or continue.

A Club may have in place a policy under which all play is suspended if certain criteria are reached or met under the Bowls NSW Extreme Weather Policy or any local extreme weather policy that applies in relation to the play concerned (e.g. a threshold temperature at which all play is suspended while conditions remain at or above or below that temperature).

Players may appeal to the Controlling Body / Umpire for play to be suspended or abandoned. In a team match, such appeal must be made by the Skip (players may request their Skip to make the appeal). In a side match, such appeal must be made by the Side Manager (players may request their Side Manager to make the appeal).

Appeals may apply only to the team(s) or side(s) who make that appeal.

In all cases, the health and safety of players should be the prime consideration in determining whether play should be suspended and/or abandoned.

#### 2.18. **Appeals and Disputes**

Disputes or appeals arising out of the application of these Conditions of Play should be resolved by the relevant Controlling Body.

A decision taken by a Controlling Body shall be binding in all respects if any immediate result is required.

An appeal may be made to the next highest authority:

- Player to Club
- Club to District (if applicable)
- District to Zone
- Zone to the State Match Committee
- State Match Committee to Bowls NSW Board/Appeals Tribunal. Any appeals to Bowls NSW Board must be in accordance with the Bowls NSW Appeals Policy.

Appeals must be accompanied by all relevant information.

If an immediate result is not required, an appeal may be made on the grounds:

- a) That there was an error of application the Conditions of Play, an error of application of the Laws or a denial of natural justice;
- b) That the decision was unreasonable or insupportable having regard to the evidence presented at the time that the decision being appealed against was made;
- c) If new evidence is available which was not available to the Appellant at time the decision being appealed against was made; or
- d) If the decision being appealed against was manifestly excessive or manifestly unfair to the Appellant.

## **2.19. Personal Electronic Devices**

Personal Electronic Devices / Communication Devices shall not be taken onto the green or surrounds during the playing of any Association Match, except with the explicit approval of the Controlling Body.

Personal Electronic Devices / Communication Devices shall not be used on the green during the playing of any Association Event, except with the explicit approval of the Controlling Body.

If approved by the Controlling Body, any communication device used shall be in 'silent mode'.

Players with a hearing disability may use a communication device if they provide medical evidence (a certificate from a treating doctor) that the device is required in order to aid the player's hearing. Hearing aids are permitted and are exempted from the requirement for medical evidence.

The device may only be used when the player's team is in possession of the rink and must not disturb players on neighbouring rinks.

### **2.19.1. Penalty**

If a player breaches condition 2.19 the following shall apply:

- a) On the first occasion the umpire will warn the player.
- b) If the player commits the same offence a second time the end will be regarded as completed and the opponents of the offender will be awarded as many shots as there are bowls in use by the opponent.
- c) In a team game, if the player offends a third time the match will be forfeited to the opponent.
- d) In a side game, if the player offends a third time the player shall be suspended from the remainder of the match. No Replacement Player or Substitute shall be permitted.

## **2.20. Player Damaging Green**

The Controlling Body shall be at liberty to warn a player if in their opinion they are causing damage to the green. Following the warning, if the player continues to cause damage to the

green, the Controlling Body may request the player to retire from the green and take no further part in the match. Refer Bowls Australia Greens Protection Policy.

#### 2.20.1. **Wheelchairs & Walking Frames**

Wheelchairs or walking frames should be used in accordance with the Bowls Australia Artificial Devices Policy.

### 2.21. **Coaching**

The coach of a player, team or side must be an accredited coach and can give advice to a player during play provided that:

- a) The Controlling Body is given the name of the coach before the game starts; (The Controlling Body shall advise the umpire(s) of the nominated coach.)
- b) Only one person is present at the rink to give advice at any one time;
- c) The person giving the advice does so when their player or team is in possession of the rink; and
- d) The person giving the advice does so from outside the boundaries of the green.

If, in the umpire's opinion, this law has been broken, the umpire must ask the coach concerned to stay within the law. If they do not stay within the law, the umpire must ask the Controlling Body to take immediate action to make sure that the offender stops breaking the law.

The Coach shall be considered as a member of the team or side and shall be attired in a manner that identifies them as a member of that club.

- e) A coach for any Junior event must have a valid WWCC record filed with Bowls NSW

### 2.22. **Delaying Play**

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 or unnecessarily delaying play:

- (v.) The umpire will warn the player on the first occasion;
- (vi.) If the player delays play a second time the end will be regarded as completed and the opponents of the offender will be awarded as many shots as there are bowls in use by the opponent.
- (vii.) If the player delays play a third time the match will be forfeited to the opponent.

### 2.23. **Restricting Movement of Players**

At the commencement of each end, Singles Players, Leads and Seconds shall be at the mat end of the green. In fours, a Third may move to the head end of the green before the commencement of the end. (before delivery of the jack to commence that end.)

A skip may appoint a team member to direct the head should they need to leave the green until they return to the green.

#### 2.23.1. **Walking to the Head**

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

##### 2.23.1.1. **Singles Game**

After delivery of their third and fourth bowls.

#### 2.23.1.2. **Pairs game**

**Leads:** after delivery of their second and fourth bowls.

**Skips:** after delivery of their second, third and fourth bowls.

#### 2.23.1.3. **Triples Game (2 bowls)**

**Leads:** after delivery of their second bowl.

**Seconds:** after delivery of their second bowl.

**Skips:** after delivery of each of their bowls.

#### 2.23.1.4. **Fours Game**

**Leads:** after delivery of their second bowl.

**Seconds:** after delivery of their second bowl.

**Thirds:** after delivery of their second bowl

**Skips:** after delivery of each of their bowls.

### 2.23.2. **Players Remaining at Head End**

#### 2.23.2.1. **Pairs**

- a) Both leads must cross to the mat end at the same time (when it is the turn of the Leads to play their third bowls)
- b) Both Skips must cross to the mat end at the same time (when it is the turn of the Skips to play)
- c) If a skip has followed their third bowl to the head (as per 2.23.1.2), they must remain at the head until it is their turn to play their next bowl.

#### 2.23.2.2. **Triples**

- a) If both Seconds have been appointed to direct the head in the absence of the skip, they must both cross to the mat end at the same time (when it is the Seconds turn to play).
- b) If only one of the Seconds has been appointed to direct the head in the absence of the skip, they must cross to the mat end when it is their turn to play.
- c) Both Skips must cross to the mat end at the same time (when it is the turn of the Skips to play).
- d) If a skip has followed their first bowl to the head (as per 2.23.1.3), they must remain at the head until it is their turn to play their next bowl.

#### 2.23.2.3. **Fours**

- a) If both Thirds have moved to the head at the commencement of the end, they both must cross to the mat end at the same time (when it is the turn of the thirds to play).
- b) If only one of the Thirds has moved to the head, they must move to the mat end immediately when it is their turn to play.
- c) Both Skips must cross to the mat end at the same time (when it is the turn of the Skips to play).
- d) If a skip has followed their first bowl to the head (as per 2.23.1.4), they must remain at the head until it is their turn to play their next bowl.

#### 2.23.3. **Televised / Streamed Matches**

Bowls NSW may specify further or alternate restrictions where a match is to be broadcast/televised or live streamed.

#### 2.23.4. **Penalty**

- a) On the first occasion of a breach of Condition 2.23, the umpire shall warn the player concerned. The Skip of the team and Manager/Coach in a sides game shall also be advised of the warning.
- b) On the second occasion of a breach of condition 2.23 the end in progress shall be declared completed and the opponents awarded the number of shots the same as the number of bowls in use in that game.
- c) In a team game, on the third occasion of a breach of condition 2.23, the match shall be forfeited to the opponents.
- d) In a side game, on the third occasion of a breach of condition 2.23, the offending player shall take no further part in the match. A substitute or replacement player shall not be permitted, and the team shall play one player short (as if the second were missing) as per the requirements of Condition 2.24.7.

Warnings/penalties apply to individuals. A warning given to a player is not a warning for the team or side.

### 2.24. **Substitutes and Replacements**

#### 2.24.1. **Definitions**

##### 2.24.1.1. **Eligible Member**

A player who satisfies the eligibility criteria, as stated in the Conditions of Play for that event.

##### 2.24.1.2. **Affiliated Member**

A player who is registered with a State or Territory Association as a member of an affiliated club.

##### 2.24.1.3. **Substitute**

A player who is appointed to take the place of a team member who is unavailable at any time (including the first end), for a reason accepted by the Controlling Body.

##### 2.24.1.4. **Replacement Player**



A player who is appointed to take the place of a Constituted player who is physically incapable or otherwise prevented from taking further part in any end (after the first round) for a reason accepted by the Controlling Body. The replacement player becomes a constituted member of the team.

#### 2.24.2. **Team Nominations**

- (i.) If approved by the Controlling Body, the players nominated to form a team entered in a competition may be changed before their first round in that competition.
- (ii.) Any player withdrawn before the first round shall be regarded as not having entered the competition and can act as a substitute or replacement player in that competition.

#### 2.24.3. **Constitution of Teams**

- (i.) A team shall become constituted when the jack is rolled in the first end of the first match to be played by that team.
- (ii.) Players in a team forfeiting or receiving a forfeit shall be constituted and cannot act as a substitute or replacement player in any other team in that competition.
- (iii.) If a player in a team becomes unavailable or is incapable of playing, the Controlling Body may authorise the use of one substitute player at any time (including the first end of any game) and/or one replacement player.

#### 2.24.4. **Substitute**

- (i.) Only one substitute will be allowed in a team at any one time.
- (ii.) A Substitute shall be chosen from Eligible Members who have not been constituted in that competition and are not nominated as a player in a team yet to be constituted.
- (iii.) If there are no eligible players available, the Controlling Body can approve an affiliated member to act as a substitute.
- (iv.) A player acting as a substitute may, with the approval of the Controlling Body, be changed at the completion of any end during a game or between succeeding games in the same competition.
- (v.) Substitutes must play in the same position as the player being substituted, except if it is the skip. If a substitute is required for a skip, then the other members of the team must rearrange their positions as necessary.
- (vi.) A player for whom a substitute is obtained, will, if they become available and are physically capable, re-join the team in the player's original position at the start of the next end and the others must revert to their original positions.
- (vii.) A player who has played as a substitute player, is eligible to again play as a substitute in that team or another team in that competition.
- (viii.) If a replacement player is used in a pairs team, then a substitute is only permitted to the place of the replacement player and the original team member must skip, otherwise a substitute cannot be permitted.
- (ix.) Substitutes are not permitted for a singles player who is not part of a sides competition.
- (x.) A substitute is not to be approved for a player who is unavailable because of a commitment to play bowls in another event they have entered.

- (xi.) A substitute must be permitted for a player who is unavailable to play because of their selection in a recognised National, State or Divisional/Regional Representative side.

#### 2.24.5. **Replacement Player**

- (i.) Only one replacement player will be allowed in a team and, when approved by the Controlling Body, becomes a constituted player.
- (ii.) Replacement players must be chosen from available eligible members and when approved by the Controlling Body can play in any position including skip.
- (iii.) Constituted players are ineligible to act as replacement players.
- (iv.) Players nominated to be a part of a team that is not yet constituted are ineligible to act as replacement players.

#### 2.24.6. **Substitutes and Replacements in State Pennants**

- (i.) Substitutes are permitted in State Pennants Matches.
- (ii.) Replacement Players are permitted to be used in State Pennants Matches only where:
  - i. the match has been commenced but not been completed and is then resumed on a subsequent date.
  - ii. a substitute has already been used in the team in which the replacement player is required.

#### 2.24.7. **Absentee players in a side game. (Law 39.2.3 and Bowls Australia Domestic Regulation 2.6)**

- (i.) If, 15 minutes after the scheduled start time for a game one player is absent from one or more teams in a side and no eligible substitute is available or allowed, the game must continue, however:
  - a) A team with an absent player plays as though the second is the missing player.
  - b) Each player must use the number of bowls specified in the Conditions of Play for that event.
  - c) The order of play shall be maintained by the second of the complete team playing consecutive bowls.
- (ii.) If a player is unable to continue the game and no eligible substitute or replacement player is available or allowed, play will continue as if one player is absent as per 2.24.7 (i).
- (iii.) If an absent player arrives late, they must take their original place in the team when they arrive and enter the game at the completion of the end in progress.
- (iv.) If an eligible substitute or replacement player becomes available and is permitted by the Controlling Body, they may be introduced to the game at the completion of the end in progress.

### 2.25. **Instantaneous Penalties**

If the Umpire, on appeal by the Controlling Body, a Side Manager, a Skip or an Opponent, or by observation, in their opinion decides that a breach of any Law or Rule or any action by a

Player/s, (where there is no penalty specified in that Law or Rule) has taken place, including without limitation:

- a) Acting in an abusive, threatening or intimidating manner towards any person,
- b) Using obscene, offensive, abusive, threatening or intimidating language towards any person,
- c) Threatening any person with physical violence or assault,
- d) Assaulting any person,
- e) Acting in a manner likely to bring the sport of bowls into disrepute,
- f) Acting in a manner likely to bring Bowls NSW or any affiliated body into disrepute,
- g) Breaching the Bowls NSW Smoke Free Greens Policy.

Then after consultation with the controlling body (in their absence the team/side managers), the end shall be immediately regarded as completed and the following shall occur:

- h) The opponent of the offender shall be awarded as many shots as there are bowls in use by the Opponent in singles or opposing Team in a team game or team in a side game.
- i) Upon a second such offence by the same player in the same game, the Umpire shall award the game to the Opponent/s according to Laws C2 and C10.
- j) Should this penalty be applied, no Replacement or Substitute player will be allowed for their/her Team.
- k) In a Team game the defaulting Team will forfeit the game to their Opponent.
- l) In a Side game BA Domestic Regulations 2.6 (Absentee Players in a Side Game) will apply.
- m) A Replacement player is not permitted for a singles player. BA Domestic Regulation 2.4.8 & COP 2.24.4(ix).

The umpire must forward a written detailed report about any incident involving an instantaneous penalty to the respective Controlling Body within seven (7) days of the incident.

## **2.26. Duties of a Controlling Body**

This is intended as a guideline for those who perform the duties of the Controlling Body. Other functions may be required of the Controlling Body for certain events or under certain circumstances.

This guideline has been divided into three sections: Pre-Match, During Match and After Match.

### **2.26.1. Pre-Match**

Before the commencement of play on any day the name(s) of the person(s) representing the Controlling Body and the Umpire(s) of the day should be announced.

The Controlling Body must present always during the match, plus for a reasonable time before the start of play and after play finishes.

They ensure that Association Events are played in accordance with these Conditions of Play.

They ensure that the dates of play for all events are set out, including provisions for rescheduling of matches which are delayed or postponed. These dates should be included on entry forms.

They should ensure that the players, umpires and markers are aware of any non-standard playing conditions.

They should ensure that an umpire has been appointed to officiate for the matches being played.

They should ensure that there are markers in attendance for singles matches.

They advise players of their eligibility for pre-match practice and the availability of rink space for that practice.

They ensure that the rinks on which players are drawn to play are announced not less than 20 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time.

They can determine that a player is physically incapable or unable to take any further part in a competition for a reason accepted by the Controlling Body and can then authorise an eligible member to join that team as a Replacement player.

They can authorise one (or more) team(s) in a side to play one player short if there is no eligible player or substitute available.

They are responsible for ensuring that the player's attire is in accordance with Bowls NSW Regulations and Conditions of Play (or in line with the requirements for that event if not an Association Event).

They decide when to start play if affected by inclement weather determined by reference to the Bowls NSW Extreme Weather Policy and any applicable local weather policy.

They may, if circumstances warrant it, extend the time allowed for late arrivals.

They can award the match to the opponent if a player, team or side fails to show or otherwise forfeits its match.

#### 2.26.2. **During Match**

They can warn the player involved if they are causing damage to the green, then they can ask him to retire from the green and take no further part in the match (the Umpire may also do this).

They can replace a marker whose performance or behaviour is less than acceptable standard.

They can take action to have spectators refrain from disturbing, advising or interfering with players.

They may allow variations in the position of players at both head and mat ends to facilitate viewing by spectators, or to assist television coverage.

They can award the match to the opponent if advised by the umpire that there has been an infringement of a law that requires a penalty.

They decide when to abandon play for the day because of darkness, inclement weather determined by reference to the Bowls NSW Extreme Weather Policy and any applicable local weather policy or any other valid reason.

#### 2.26.3. **After Match**

They are the ones to whom the umpire hands the set of bowls and the \$150 deposit if there has been a challenge to a set of bowls. They arrange to have the confiscated bowls tested. (See Law 52)

They are the official to whom the appellant gives their written appeal and to whom the umpire hands the deposit and their written report if there has been an appeal against the umpire's application of the Laws.

They ensure that any necessary closing announcements are made.

### 3. Association Events

#### 3.1. State Championships

State Championships shall be conducted as qualifying within Zones. Players in a team shall be from the same Club.

Qualifying play shall be open draw, knockout or combination of sectional play and knockout. Zone Winners shall proceed to State Finals.

State Finals shall be conducted as Sectional Play followed by Semi-Finals and Final.

##### 3.1.1. Singles

Singles shall be played as 4 bowls per player (played singly and alternately).

Matches shall be played to 31 shots up (the first player to reach 31 shots shall win the game).

Shots in excess of 31 do not count.

A Zone/District/Club Controlling Body may elect to conduct their initial stage of sectional play to 25 shots up (the first player to reach 25 shots shall win the game, shots in excess of 25 do not count). All knockout games shall be 31 up. If 25 up for sectional play is to be used is to be clearly advised on all entry forms and draws for the event.

All Bowls NSW State Finals Series matches shall be 31 shots up, including Sectional Play & Knockout unless specified in the Conditions of Play for that event (eg State Junior Championships).

##### 3.1.1.1. *Open*

Open to all players registered with Bowls NSW who have not entered the State Senior Singles or State President's Reserve Singles.

##### 3.1.1.2. *Senior*

Open to all players registered with Bowls NSW who are aged 60 years or over as at 1 January 2021 (Born on or before 1 January 1961) and who have not entered the State Singles or State President's Reserve Singles.

\*The same eligibility date shall apply to all State Senior Championships (Singles, Pairs, Triples & Fours) in a year.

##### 3.1.1.3. *State President's Reserve*

Open to all players registered with Bowls NSW who were graded in their previous season in Grade 5, Grade 6 or Grade 7 **or** who has no previous season grading **and** is not graded higher than Grade 5 at the close of entries for that Association Event **and** who have not entered the State Singles or State Senior Singles.

##### 3.1.1.4. *State Under 25 Singles*

Note separate Conditions of Play for State Under 25 Singles.

##### 3.1.2. Pairs

Pairs shall be played as 4 bowls per player, played singly and alternately in the order lead 2 bowls, skip 2 bowls then lead 2 bowls and skip 2 bowls.

Matches shall be played over 21 ends.

#### 3.1.2.1. **Open**

Open to all players registered with Bowls NSW who have not entered the State Senior Pairs or State President's Reserve Pairs.

#### 3.1.2.2. **Senior**

Open to all players registered with Bowls NSW who are aged 60 years or over as at 1 January 2021 (Born on or before 1 January 1961) and who have not entered the State Pairs or State President's Reserve Pairs.

#### 3.1.2.3. **State President's Reserve**

Open to all players registered with Bowls NSW who were graded in their previous season in Grade 5, Grade 6 or Grade 7 **or** who has no previous season grading **and** is not graded higher than Grade 5 at the close of entries for that Association Event **and** who have not entered the State Pairs or State Senior Pairs.

#### 3.1.2.4. **State Over 40s Pairs**

Note separate Conditions of Play for State Over 40s Pairs.

#### 3.1.3. **Triples**

Triples shall be played as 2 bowls per player, played singly and alternately in the order lead 2 bowls, second 2 bowls and skip 2 bowls.

Matches shall be played over 25 ends.

##### 3.1.3.1. **Open**

Open to all players registered with Bowls NSW who have not entered the State Senior Triples or State President's Reserve Triples.

##### 3.1.3.2. **Senior**

Open to all players registered with Bowls NSW who are aged 60 years or over as at 1 January 2021 (Born on or before 1 January 1961) and who have not entered the State Triples or State President's Reserve Triples.

##### 3.1.3.3. **State President's Reserve**

Open to all players registered with Bowls NSW who were graded in their previous season in Grade 5, Grade 6 or Grade 7 **or** who has no previous season grading **and** is not graded higher than Grade 5 at the close of entries for that Association Event **and** who have not entered the State Triples or State Senior Triples.

#### 3.1.4. **Fours**

Fours shall be played as 2 bowls per player, played singly and alternately in the order lead 2 bowls, second 2 bowls, third 2 bowls and skip 2 bowls.

Matches shall be played over 21 ends.

##### 3.1.4.1. **Open**

Open to all players registered with Bowls NSW who have not entered the State Senior Fours or State President's Reserve Fours.

##### 3.1.4.2. **Senior**

Open to all players registered with Bowls NSW who are aged 60 years or over as at 1 January 2021 (Born on or before 1 January 1961) and who have not entered the State Fours or State President's Reserve Fours.

#### 3.1.4.3. **State President's Reserve**

Open to all players registered with Bowls NSW who were graded in their previous season in Grade 5, Grade 6 or Grade 7 **or** who has no previous season grading **and** is not graded higher than Grade 5 at the close of entries for that Association Event **and** who have not entered the State Fours or State Senior Fours.

### **3.2. Champion of Club Champions**

#### 3.2.1. **Singles**

Open to players who win their Club Major Singles Championship in the current Bowling Season.

Duration and format of matches shall be as per COP 3.1 (State Championships).

#### 3.2.2. **Pairs**

Open to players who win their Club Major Pairs Championship in the current Bowling Season.

#### 3.2.3. **Substitutes and Replacement Players**

Singles – Substitutes and Replacement Players are not permitted.

Pairs – Replacement players are not permitted.

The Controlling Body may authorise the use of a substitute in a Pairs team (the substitute may be authorised as an affiliated member). The affiliated member must be currently registered as a member of the Club that the team is representing, must have been eligible to enter the Club Pairs and must NOT have been constituted in the Club Major Pairs.

### **3.3. Conduct**

All State Championships, State President's Reserve Championships, State Senior Championships and State Champion of Club Champions shall be conducted as qualifying within Zones. Players in a team shall be from the same club.

Qualifying play shall be open draw, knockout or combination of sectional play and knockout. Zone Winners shall proceed to State Finals.

State Finals shall be conducted as Sectional Play followed by Semi-Finals and Final.

#### 3.3.1. **Determining Section Winners in Singles / Teams Games**

In each match of sectional play points shall be awarded as follows:

**Win** 3 Points (Player/team scoring the highest number of shots)

**Tie (Draw)** 1 Point (Both players/teams score equal number of shots)

**Loss** 0 Points (Player/team scoring the lesser number of shots)

The winner of the Sectional Series of Matches shall be determined as follows:

- (i.) The player or team scoring the highest number of points shall be declared the winner.
- (ii.) If two or more players or teams are equal on points, the player or team with the largest difference between 'total shots for' and 'total shots against' shall be the winner.
- (iii.) If there is still a tie, the player or team with the lowest 'total shots against' shall be the winner.

(iv.) If there is still a tie the team with the higher number of ends won (does not apply to singles player) shall be declared the winner.

(v.) If two players or teams remain tied, the winner of the match between those teams/players shall be declared the winner.

### **3.4. Rookies**

See separate Conditions of Play document for Rookies on the Bowls NSW website.

### **3.5. Australian Indoor Singles (NSW Qualifying)**

See separate Conditions of Play document for Australian Indoor Singles (NSW Qualifying) on the Bowls NSW website.

### **3.6. Junior Events**

See separate Conditions of Play document for Junior Events on the Bowls NSW website.

### **3.7. State Over 40s Pairs Championship**

See separate Conditions of Play document for Over 40s Championships on the Bowls NSW website.

### **3.8. State Pennants (Sides Event)**

#### **3.8.1. Pennants - General**

Pennants shall be conducted under the control of the State Match Committee. The State Match Committee is the Controlling Body for State Grade 1 Pennants.

The State Match Committee may delegate to Zones, in line with these Conditions of Play, control of Pennants Grades 2 to 7.

##### **3.8.1.1. Pennants Sides**

Each side shall comprise three (3) teams each of four (4) players.

##### **3.8.1.1.1. Absentee Players – incomplete side**

In Sides events, play may proceed with one or more teams missing one player.

For Pennant play this means that each team of a side may consist of three players. In this case each player shall play 2 bowls as per condition 2.24.7.

#### **3.8.2. Pennant Play**

Zones shall submit their proposed format for sectional play and post sectional play for approval by the State Match Committee.

Zones are not to release submissions until confirmation from State Match Committee. Submissions should include the number of sides and number of rounds to be played in each grade and the method of qualification for post-sectional play. Draws may be managed to accommodate geographic considerations and to balance competitions. Submissions should detail the format of post-sectional play at all levels and include the reporting and recording mechanisms to be employed. (Refer condition 3.8.39)

#### **3.8.3. Pennant Grades**

There shall be seven (7) Grades of Pennants available.

Definition - Grade 1 is the 'highest' Grade of Pennant, Grade 7 the 'lowest'. All definitions in these Conditions of Play of higher and lower grades refer to this convention.



A Club may be permitted to enter one or more sides in any pennant grade but shall not be compelled to enter more than one side in any Grade except as provided for in Condition 3.8.5.

Note: Player eligibility requirements may require Clubs to enter more than one side in a Grade.

Where a Club has two or more sides entered in any grade they shall be identified as No.1, No.2, No.3 or A, B, C or Red, Green or Blue etc. The sides are considered equal within that grade and players can play in either side during sectional play (if not graded higher).

Where a Club has two or more sides entered in any grade those sides must be drawn in different sections within that grade if there are sufficient sections. If there are insufficient sections and those sides are drawn in the same section, the matches between those sides must be:

- (i.) Before Rd 3 and before Rd 8 in a 6 side, 10 round home & away section
- (ii.) In Round 1 and Round 4 in a 4 side, 6 round home & away section,
- (iii.) Before Round 3 in a section where all sides play each other once.

Each Zone shall be represented by a Side in each of Grades 2-7 at the State Pennant Finals Series.

#### **3.8.4.Club Grades - Players Eligibility**

Clubs shall be allocated grades in accordance with Conditions of Play 3.8.5, 3.8.20, 3.8.23 and 3.8.24.

Allocation of grades shall be based on the grades contested by the club in the previous season, Zone and District winners being elevated and last placed sides regressed.

Clubs shall also be able to make application for allocation of grades based on the eligibility of their players for the grades proposed.

(Refer also COP 2.3.1.4 regarding players who are suspended or expelled from membership at clubs)

#### **3.8.5.Elevation & Regression of Clubs**

Elevation and regression of clubs shall be based on results from the previous season.

Allocation of grades shall be based on a club's results from the previous season. The principle is that clubs retain their previously allocated grades with any variations based on performance. The principle that winners are to be elevated and last placed sides to be regressed is the basis of the Conditions of Play.

It is noted that in 2021 Clubs shall be allocated as per 2020 Grades of Clubs. Applications for variation from this allocation shall be considered as per COP 3.8.5.4.

*Elevation (3.8.5.1) & Regression (3.8.5.2) are shown for reference towards 2022 season.*

##### **3.8.5.1. Elevation of Clubs**

- (i.) All Clubs competing in 2021 Grade 1 State Pennants will be allocated as a side in 2022 NSW Grade 1 State Pennants, subject to application under 3.8.5.4
- (ii.) All Winners of State Pennants, Grades 2 to 7, shall be elevated to the next highest Grade, irrespective of whether that Club has a side already entered in that higher grade.
- (iii.) The Grade 2 State Winner shall be elevated to play in the NSW Grade 1 State Pennants

(iv.) All Zone Grade 2 Winners will be invited to play in the NSW Grade 1 State Pennants.

An Expression of Interest to participate in the NSW Grade 1 State Pennants will be sent to all NSW Clubs.

(v.) All Zone and District Winners, Grades 3 to 7, shall be elevated to the next highest grade, irrespective of whether that Club has a side already entered in that higher grade.

(vi.) Clubs winning sections within a grade may be elevated as required by the need to balance numbers in each grade of competition within the Zone or District.

#### **3.8.5.2. Regression of Clubs**

(i.) Clubs finishing last in Grades 2 to 6 within a Zone or District shall be regressed to the next lowest Grade, irrespective of whether that Club has a side already entered in that lower grade.

(ii.) Clubs finishing last in sections may be regressed as required by the need to balance numbers in each grade of competition within the Zone or District.

#### **3.8.5.3. Request for Elevation or Regression**

A club may submit a written request for elevation or regression of its sides based on a gain of players or loss of players. Such application shall detail the players available for the club for the season. The submission must also detail that the grades applied for are compliant with the requirements of these Conditions of Play (refer COP 3.8.22, Player Grading and Eligibility)

#### **3.8.6. Multi-Grade Competitions**

A Multi-Grade competition (within Zones/Districts), where sides entered from more than one grade play each other, may be organised. Any such competition shall have written approval from the State Match Committee. (Refer to Condition 3.8.7 and 3.8.20)

#### **3.8.7. Composite Sides**

Clubs may combine to enter a side in Pennants.

For the purpose of Condition 2.3, players playing in the composite side shall be deemed to be playing for their declared Club.

Players eligibility to play in the composite side shall be determined as if they would be eligible to participate in that grade/side within their own club, as per condition 3.8.23.

Clubs wishing to enter a composite side shall forward a written application, which shall be endorsed by the Zone and submitted to the State Match Committee with the Zone Pennant submission for approval.

Such written application shall detail:

- a) Which Club shall host home matches, or the number of home matches to be allocated to each Club.
- b) The playing uniform to be worn by the Composite Side.
- c) The financial commitment of each of the Clubs towards entry fees, fines, players costs, etc.

#### **3.8.8. Single Entry in a Grade in a District**

##### **3.8.8.1. Single-Entry Side**

(i.) A Single-Entry Side is a side which is the only entry in a grade in a District.

- (ii.) Where a District or Zone has only one entry in a grade that side may be placed in a multi-grade competition or the side may play in that grade in another District within that Zone.
- (iii.) Any such Multi-Grade competition must be approved by the State Match Committee (See 3.8.6). The submission must include the method for qualification for Post-sectional play for each grade involved.

#### **3.8.8.2. Stand-Out Side**

- (i.) A Stand-Out Side is a Single-Entry side that is not participating in a multi-grade competition and is proceeding directly to Post-Sectional play at Zone level.
- (ii.) A Single-Entry Side cannot be a Stand-Out Side unless a written application is approved by State Match Committee.
- (iii.) The names of the players for the Stand-Out Side must be nominated to the District, Zone & State prior to the commencement of play in ANY Grade of Pennant in that Season.
- (iv.) Those players nominated are ineligible to play in any other grade except with the approval of the State Match Committee.

#### **3.8.9. Withdrawals of Pennants Sides**

If a side is withdrawn from the competition after the draw has been made it shall be the lowest grade entered.

If a side is withdrawn without a satisfactory explanation to the relevant Controlling Body the penalty shall be a fine not exceeding six hundred dollars (\$600) and/or refusal of entry in a subsequent competition, at the discretion of the relevant Controlling Body.

#### **3.8.10. Side Officials**

All Side Officials are regarded as members of the side and shall be attired in a manner that identifies them as a member of that club.

All Side Officials shall be nominated to the Controlling Body and names supplied to the umpire before the commencement of play.

##### **3.8.10.1. Side Managers**

A Club shall appoint a Side Manager (male or female) who shall be a member of the Club and is responsible for drawing of cards and of rinks, the toss for the mat and the completion of the Pennant Result Form.

The Side Manager shall be the Side's representative in all matters concerning the playing of a match.

A second person may be allowed to assist the Side Manager.

##### **3.8.10.2. Side Coach**

A Club may appoint a coach to give advice to players during a match.

The appointment and actions of the coach shall be in accordance with Condition 2.21.

In the absence of a nominated Coach, the Side Manager shall be the delegated deputy as prescribed by the Laws.

The Coach shall be a member of the Club and must be an accredited coach. If the side contains a Junior player (ie a person under the age of 18 years) the Coach must also have a valid Working With Children Check number.

#### 3.8.11. **Timetable**

The Side Managers shall be at the Venue Club not less than forty (40) minutes before the starting time of the event.

The Side Managers shall advise the Controlling Body of the draw and allocation of rinks not less than thirty (30) minutes before the starting time of the event.

Trial ends shall commence not later than twenty (20) minutes before the starting time of the event.

#### 3.8.12. **Practice**

Players may practice up to thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the match, providing that rink space is available, and the Controlling Body approves.

Players may not practice on the rink on which they are drawn to play once the rink draw is made. (Domestic Regulation 1.1.4)

#### 3.8.13. **Play**

Number of Ends – Matches shall be played over sixty-three (63) ends.  
(*Twenty-one (21) ends on each rink*).

#### 3.8.14. **Play Not Commenced**

Matches not commenced shall be played (Saturday and Sunday) as necessary or at the discretion of the Controlling Body.

If the Controlling Body determines that the result of the match will have no bearing on determination of section winners or elevation and regression of sides for the following season the match shall be declared a tie and each side awarded five (5) points.

The Home Side is responsible for ensuring that the Controlling Body is notified that play was not commenced.

Both sides should send their intended side to the Controlling Body. If not played the match may be used for eligibility for Post-Sectional Play.

Players selected to play in a rescheduled match not commenced shall not have played in a higher grade in the same round and shall not have a current season grading in a higher grade on the date that the match is rescheduled. (Note that an originally named intended player may become ineligible to play on the rescheduled match date.) *Refer 3.8.26.*

It is recommended that Zones/Districts allow in their programming an early date for the playing of matches either not commenced or not completed.

#### 3.8.15. **Play Not Completed**

A minimum of fifty-four (54) ends shall constitute a completed match.

If a match is stopped (e.g. due to inclement weather) and less than fifty-four (54) ends are completed when the match is stopped the match shall be resumed (at a later date/time) and continued to sixty-three (63) ends.

Refer to Bowls NSW Extreme Weather Policy.

Where two matches are scheduled to be played on a day and the first of those matches is delayed, the Controlling Body may, if necessary, to successfully complete the event, determine that each match to be played on that day will be of reduced duration.

If the relevant Controlling Body determines that the result of the match will have no bearing on determination of section winners or elevation and regression of sides for the following season the match shall be declared a tie and each side awarded five (5) points.

Players selected as Replacement Players or Substitutes in a resumed match shall not have played in a higher grade in the same round and shall not have a current season grading in a higher grade on the date that the match is resumed. (Note: The original constituted players remain eligible to complete the match.) Refer also to Conditions 3.8.26 and 2.24.7.

Note: Each side shall retain its score cards and a copy of the Pennant Result Form, for use when the match is resumed. The seconds should sign/initial the score cards at the point where play was interrupted.

**Penalties:** As prescribed in Condition 3.8.33

Note: A Pennant Result Form showing Match not completed should be forwarded to the Controlling Body.

Note: In a resumed match (See condition 2.24.6) One Substitute player may be permitted in each team. If two players are unavailable in each team one substitute and one Replacement Player may be authorised. If three players are unavailable in a team, that team may play one player short as per Condition 2.24.7.

#### 3.8.16. Inclement Weather

The relevant Controlling Body shall determine the procedure and timetable under which a decision may be made that play will not proceed on any scheduled playing date due to inclement weather. The Bowls NSW Extreme Weather Policy and any applicable local weather policy shall also be used.

The procedure should include the method of communicating that decision to all concerned.

#### 3.8.17. Method of Scoring

The method of scoring for all sectional pennant matches and all post-sectional round robin matches shall be:

<b>Side Win</b>	7 Points (Side scoring the highest aggregate number of shots)
<b>Side Tie (Draw)</b>	3.5 Points (Both Sides Score equal aggregate number of shots)
<b>Side Loss</b>	0 Points (Side scoring the lesser aggregate number of shots)
<b>Team Win</b>	1 Point (one point for each team of side that wins (rink win)
<b>Team Tie</b>	0.5 Points (0.5 points for each team of side that ties (rink tie)

Maximum 10 points scored in any match.

##### 3.8.17.1. Determining Section Results

The winner of the Sectional Series of Matches shall be determined as follows:

- (i.) The Side scoring the highest number of points shall be declared the winner.
- (ii.) If there is a tie, the side with the largest difference between 'total shots for' and 'total shots against' shall be the winner.
- (iii.) If there is still a tie, the side with the lowest 'total shots against' shall be the winner.
- (iv.) If there is still a tie, the side winning the highest number of ends over all matches of the Sectional shall be declared the winner.

(v.) Rankings within sections shall also be determined using the above method.

#### 3.8.17.2. **Knockout-matches**

The Side scoring the higher aggregate number of shots shall be declared the winner. If at the completion of the scheduled number of ends scores are tied an extra end or ends shall be played to determine a result. (Refer Law 28)

#### 3.8.18. **Bye**

Where a Club withdraws before the commencement of a competition OR where there is an odd number of teams in a section, a bye shall occur.

Nil points for a bye.

Note: Byes do not count towards players eligibility for post section (condition 3.8.24) or grading (condition 3.8.23).

#### 3.8.19. **Forfeit**

- (i.) A side receiving a forfeit during sectional play shall be awarded maximum points and be credited with a margin of +15 shots.
- (ii.) At the time of the forfeit the match shall be recorded as a score of 15-0. If at the end of sectional play the determination of section winners is to be determined by shots conceded (See condition 3.8.17.1) the match scores shall be calculated as:
  - a) Side forfeiting shall be credited as scoring the average number of shots of losing sides in that section over the season.
  - b) Side receiving forfeit shall be credited with average losing score +15 shots.
- (iii.) A side receiving a forfeit shall submit a Pennant Result Form. For the purposes of grading of players and eligibility for post sectional play the match shall be deemed to be a match played and the players declared on the Pennant Result Form regarded as having played the match.
- (iv.) If a Club fields more than one Pennant Grade on the same playing date, any forfeit shall be that of the lowest grade.
- (v.) A side forfeiting shall notify:
  - a) The Controlling Body
  - b) The Opponent
  - c) The Venue Clubat least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the start of the first match unless there is a satisfactory explanation for not doing so.
- (vi.) Penalty not exceeding \$600 per side for any one offence and/or have their entry declined for any association event for a period of up to twelve (12) months.
- (vii.) A side forfeiting any match must submit to the relevant Controlling Body a written explanation of the reason(s) for the forfeiture of the match. Such explanation to be submitted within seven (7) days of the date on which the match was scheduled to be played.
- (viii.) Should the explanation be deemed inadequate, a penalty not exceeding \$600 per side may be imposed on the Club for any one offence and/or the Club may have their entry declined for any Association Event for a period of up to twelve (12) months.

### 3.8.20. **Approval & Reporting**

All Zones shall submit a summary of the Grades of Pennant to be played by each Club within their Zone to the State Match Committee for approval no later than eight (8) weeks prior to the date of the first scheduled match in that competition.

The submission shall include full details (full submitted requests from Clubs) for elevation and/or regression under COP 3.8.5.4.

The submission shall include the proposed competition format, including sectional and post-sectional play.

The State Match Committee shall withhold approval of competitions should the required information not be received or not be received within timeframes.

### 3.8.21. **End of Season Reporting**

All Zones shall submit a summary of results for the current season to the State Match Committee on the prescribed form and in prescribed format, showing the points scored by each side in each grade of Pennants contested, no later than one (1) week following the completion of Zone Play.

Clubs shall submit their Pennant Player Participation records to Zones at the conclusion of Sectional Play.

All Zones shall submit their Pennant player gradings for the current season (including indicating players graded in Zone winning Sides) to the State Match Committee no later than one (1) week following the completion of Zone Play.

### 3.8.22. **Player Grading & Eligibility**

Players eligibility to participate in Pennants is based on:

- (i.) Their grading (if any) from their previous season and then
- (ii.) Their grading when attained in the current season.

In exceptional cases, a variation of eligibility may be granted by the State Match Committee.

Clubs should ensure that their available players are able to be selected in their grades to be allocated, making application for elevation or regression of sides (as per COP 3.8.5.4) if necessary.

*See Section 5 – Club Pennant Grading Examples*

#### 3.8.22.1. **Recording of Grading**

Players grading shall be recorded as being of Grade 1 to 7 or being ungraded (0 or no grading recorded)

The following notations also apply

- (i.) **N gradings** (eg N1) – player is a previous season winner and may play no lower than their previous season grading
- (ii.) **R gradings** (eg R5) – player has been granted a variation of eligibility for the current season and is ineligible to play lower than the grade approved by the State Match Committee.
- (iii.) **P gradings** – (eg P1) Player is a non-NSW based player and is ineligible to play lower than the grading allocated without approval from the State Match Committee.

### 3.8.23. **Eligibility**

#### 3.8.23.1. **Variation of Eligibility**

Any variation to a player's eligibility must have the written approval of the State Match Committee.

Clubs may make application (on the Application for Variation of Condition of Play 3.8.23) for specific players to have their grading or eligibility varied, submitting all relevant details through their Zone Association.

Clubs must ensure that their grades proposed to be allocated (before commencement of the season) allow for selection of their players in grades in which they are eligible to play in accordance with these Conditions of Play. An application for elevation should be submitted as per COP 3.8.5.4 if necessary. Applications for variation of players' eligibility may not be granted for clubs with an excess of higher graded players.

Any player granted a variation of eligibility (regrade) will be counted as 1 of 6 players allowed to play in any grade that is 2 or more grades below their Previous Season Grade (see 3.8.23.8, 3.8.23.9 & 3.8.23.10)

**A player's eligibility shall be determined as follows:**

**3.8.23.2. Previous Season State Pennant Winners**

- (i.) A player who was graded in a side that was a State Pennant Winner in Grades 2 to 7 in the previous season shall be ineligible to play in that grade or lower in the current Bowling Season.
- (ii.) A player who was graded in a side that was a State Pennant Winner in Grade 1 in the previous season shall be ineligible to play in a lower grade in the current season.
- (iii.) Players who are constituted in a side that wins a State Pennant (i.e. players who play in the final) in Grades 2 to 7 shall be ineligible to play in that grade or lower in their next season.

**3.8.23.3. Previous Season Zone Pennant Winners & Grade 1 Finalists**

- (i.) A player who was graded in a side that was a Zone Pennant Winner in Grades 2 to 7 in the previous season shall be ineligible to play in a lower grade in the current season.
- (ii.) A player who was graded in a side that qualified for the Grade 1 State Pennant Finals in the previous season shall be ineligible to play in a lower Grade in the current season.

**3.8.23.4. Players Changing Declared Club**

Eligibility of Players Changing Declared Clubs is determined as per these Conditions of Play. Previous season State Pennant Winners eligibility is determined by condition 3.8.23.2.

Note: Restrictions on eligibility also apply the highest grade entered by a club.

A player changing their declared Club from their previous season requires an NSW Club Player Clearance. (Refer Condition 2.3.1.2 and Bowls NSW Regulations)

**3.8.23.5. Players with 'Nominated' Club other than NSW**

Clubs shall be restricted to a maximum of two (2) players in any match in the highest grade of NSW Pennants played by that Club who:

- (i.) Currently have a Club in a State other than NSW as their nominated club as per the Bowls Australia Affiliation and Eligibility to Play policy and/or



- (ii.) Normally reside outside Australia and are also registered/affiliated with a body recognised by World Bowls.
- (iii.) Players covered under this clause must be registered with the club or written permission gained from the State Match Committee (through District/Zone) to be eligible to play.
- (iv.) A player who had a nominated club outside of NSW for the previous Bowling Season shall be included in this clause unless they:
  - a) Are registered with Bowls NSW as a member of the NSW Club as at 1 January in the year of competition AND
  - b) Have an Interstate Clearance lodged with Bowls NSW to become an NSW player as at 1 January in the year of the competition and do not seek Interstate Clearance to another State/Territory before the completion of the State Pennant Finals in that year OR?
  - c) Receive written permission from the State Match Committee to be considered an NSW based player. The player shall make written application and shall submit evidence of their case to be considered as an NSW based player.
- (v.) This limitation shall apply only to the highest grade of NSW Pennant played by that club.

#### **3.8.23.6. *Players from outside NSW***

- (viii.) Players who have previously played in a State or Territory other than NSW and who do NOT have a previous season grading from NSW shall be deemed to have a grading in that club's highest grade.
  - (i.) Players registered with or playing in a body recognised by another National Association who do not have a NSW Previous Season Grading shall be deemed to have a Previous Season Grading of Grade 1
  - (ii.) The eligibility of players may be varied on written application (through relevant District/Zone) to the State Match Committee.
  - (iii.) Players covered under this clause must be registered with Bowls NSW and have any required clearances submitted to Bowls NSW to be eligible to play.
  - (iv.) This clause does not apply to any player registered with Women's Bowls NSW. Any player who is or was registered with Women's Bowls NSW shall be regarded as having no previous season grading.

#### **3.8.23.7. *All Other Players***

- (i.) A player is eligible to play no lower than one (1) Grade below their grading for their previous Pennant Season, except as otherwise provided for in this clause.

#### **3.8.23.8. *Non-Consecutive Grades***

- (i.) Where a Club does not have consecutive grades, a maximum of six (6) players shall be eligible to play more than one grade below their previous season grade in the next lowest grade contested by that Club.

- (ii.) The six players are for the whole of the season and is irrespective of whether the club has two sides in any of those grades.
- (ix.) A Club having consecutive grades as a result of regression shall be entitled to apply the conditions of 3.8.23.8 (i) to those consecutive grades.

**3.8.23.9. Consecutive Grade Clubs**

A maximum of six (6) players in each grade are eligible to play no more than two (2) grades below their previous season grading. (The maximum of six players is for the whole of the season and is irrespective of whether the club has two sides in any of those grades.)

**3.8.23.10. Club's Highest Grade**

- (i.) A Maximum of three (3) players who have changed their declared club from the previous season shall be eligible to play 2 or more grades below their previous season grading in a Club's Highest Grade.
- (ii.) A Maximum of six (6) players are eligible to play 2 or more grades below their previous season grading in a Club's Highest Grade. (including, if applicable, three players who have changed declared club from previous season in clause (i) above)
- (iii.) A Club requiring more than the number of players permitted under this clause shall make application for elevation as per COP 3.8.5.4
- (iv.) The six players are for the whole of the season and is irrespective of whether the club has two sides in any of those grades.

**3.8.23.11. Player Graded in the Current Season**

Once a player has become graded in the current season, they are ineligible to play in a grade lower than their current season grading. (The player may not play in a lower grade from the date on which they became graded.)

**3.8.23.12. Current Season Grading**

A player's grading in the current season shall be determined by their matches played in the current season.

**3.8.23.13. Graded During the Current Season**

A player who has played a minimum of the threshold number of matches (as below) shall be graded in that grade for the current season. (Byes do not count as a match played)

<b>Number of Sectional Matches Scheduled</b>	<b>Threshold Number of Matches (Byes do NOT count as a match played)</b>
11 or more	6 matches
9 or 10	5 matches
7 or 8 (plus 1 or more byes)	4 matches
7 or 8	4 matches
5 or 6 (plus 1 or more byes)	3 matches

5 or 6	3 matches
3 or 4 (plus 1 or more byes)	2 matches
3 or 4	2 matches
2 (plus 1 more byes)	1 match
2	1 match

If a Club has multiple sides in a Grade, a player is graded once they play the minimum threshold number of matches applicable to any side in that Grade (i.e. the lowest number of matches).

Once a player has become graded in the current season they may not play in a lower grade.

A player's grading will change to a higher grade if they play the number of threshold matches in a higher grade.

#### 3.8.23.14. **Graded at end of Sectional Play**

- (i.) A player who has not been graded at the end of sectional play, but has played a total (across all grades) of the minimum threshold number of matches applicable to any grade in which they played, shall be graded in the current season in the grade in which they have the greater number of matches (if equal, the lowest grade shall apply).
- (ii.) A player who has not played a total (across all grades) of the minimum threshold number of matches applicable to any grade in which they played shall retain their previous season grading. A player who has not been graded at the end of sectional play is ineligible to play Post Sectional matches without written permission from the State Match Committee.

#### 3.8.23.15. **Recording of Player Grades**

- (i.) Any player whose grading is applicable due to 3.8.23.2 or 3.8.23.3 will be given a prefix of 'N'; meaning they can play no lower than that Grade in the Current Season.
- (ii.) Any player whose grading is applicable due to 3.8.23.1 will be given a prefix of 'R'; meaning Re-Grade and can play no lower than that Grade in the Current Season.
- (iii.) Any player granted a regrade will be counted as 1 of 6 players allowed to play in any grade that is 2 or more grades below their Previous Season Grade (see 3.8.23.8, 3.8.23.9 & 3.8.23.10).

#### 3.8.24. **Post Sectional Play**

- (i.) A player shall be eligible to play in Post Sectional Play in a grade no lower than their current season grading and as prescribed by Condition 3.8.30 Eligibility for Post Sectional Play.
- (ii.) Players who are constituted in a side that wins a State Pennant (i.e. players who play in the final) in Grades 2 to 7 shall be ineligible to play in that grade or lower in their next season.
- (iii.) Players who participate in a side that wins a Zone Pennant (i.e. players who play in the final) in Grades 2 to 7 shall be ineligible to play in a lower grade in their next season.
- (iv.) Post Sectional Matches other than a Zone or State Pennant Final do not affect a player's current season grading.

##### 3.8.24.1. **Penalties:**

As prescribed in Condition 3.8.33 Penalty for Pennant Infringements.

**3.8.25. Player Match / Grading Records**

Clubs and Zones/Districts should keep accurate records of players participation in each round of Pennants, ensuring that players are selected and play in grades as they are eligible according to Condition of Play 3.8.23. (See also 3.8.21 End of Season Reporting).

**3.8.26. Participation in State Pennants**

A player may not participate in more than one match in any Round of Sectional Pennant Play (Grades 1 - 7) except for a resumed match or a rescheduled match.

In a resumed or rescheduled match, a player may play a match in a higher grade in place of an originally named player who is ineligible or unavailable for a reason accepted by the Controlling Body on the rescheduled/resumed date. Prior written permission shall be obtained from the Controlling Body.

In a resumed match, if only one player is unavailable then a substitute MUST be used; if 2 players are unavailable in a Rink, a substitute and a Replacement player may be used.

Matches shall be counted as matches played for grading and eligibility for post-section purposes. SEE conditions 3.8.24 and 3.8.30.

For the purpose of this condition Round 1 shall be deemed as the first match scheduled to be played in that grade, Round 2 the second match scheduled to be played, and so on. The date on which the match is played is not considered.

**3.8.26.1. Grade 1 Scheduled on later dates**

Where Grade 1 State Pennants matches are scheduled on later dates than other grades contested, the players intended to form the Grade 1 side shall be nominated to the State Match Committee and Zone Association. The players nominated to play in the Grade 1 side shall be ineligible to play in Grades 2-7.

A player who has previously played in the corresponding round in Grades 2 to 7 is ineligible to play in the same round except with written approval from the State Match Committee.

**3.8.26.2. Penalties:**

As prescribed in Condition 3.8.33.

**3.8.27. Artificial Light**

Artificial light is permitted to be used during play in Association Events.

**3.8.28. Change of Venue**

If the greens of the Venue Club are unplayable or become unavailable, the venue may be changed by the Controlling Body or by mutual agreement between the competing clubs with the consent of the Controlling Body.

Pennant Result Forms shall be completed by the designated home side.

**3.8.29. Results**

Results shall be forwarded to the relevant Controlling Body (State / Zone / District) by the Designated Home# Side immediately after the completion of play.

A Pennant Result Form shall be completed for all scheduled matches.

Any Substitute or Replacement player during a match must be recorded on the result form.

A Pennant Result Form must be completed and forwarded to the Controlling Body for Forfeits, Matches Not Completed and Matches Not Commenced.

Penalty for failing to supply results or supplying false or misleading information within three (3) days after the match may incur a fine not exceeding five hundred (\$500) dollars plus GST.

*#Note – Zone/District Controlling Bodies may specify additional/alternative requirements for the submission of results.*

### 3.8.30. **Eligibility for Post Sectional Play**

To be eligible for post sectional play a player must have been graded in the current season in that Grade or in a lower Grade.

A player who has not been graded in the current season may be approved to play post sectional play by application to the State Match Committee, with the recommendation of the District and Zone.

A waiver of eligibility will only be considered if:

- a) There are insufficient eligible players available whose current season grading is in the grade required AND
- b) The Club's next lowest graded side is also involved in Post-Sectional Play.

Applications for players who have not played in the current season will only be considered for the Club's lowest Grade.

### 3.8.31. **Post Sectional Play - Method of Scoring**

#### 3.8.31.1. **Knockout Play**

The Side scoring the highest aggregate number of shots (Master board scoring) shall be declared the winner.

If scores are equal at the completion of the scheduled number of ends (Master board), an extra end or ends shall be played to determine a winner (See Law 28).

#### 3.8.31.2. **Sectional Play**

As per Condition of Play 3.8.17 Method of Scoring.

### 3.8.32. **Names of Zone Winners**

Names of Zone winners must be advised to Bowls NSW immediately after the completion of the event and before the date shown in the State Program.

### 3.8.33. **Penalty for Pennant Infringements**

The following penalties apply for Playing an Unregistered Player, Playing an Ineligible or Grading Infringement Player or forfeiture of a match due to a breach of the Laws. (Refer to Conditions of Play 2.19, 3.8.23, 3.8.24, Law C.2, Law 39.2.1 and Law 52.6 and Bowls NSW Regulations & Policies):

#### 3.8.33.1. **Sectional Play**

- (i.) The offending side disqualified with loss of all points for the match involved and shall be credited with a margin of -15 shots or the margin by which it lost whichever is the higher.
- (ii.) The non-offending side shall receive maximum points and shall be credited with a margin of +15 shots or the margin by which it won, whichever is the higher.

(iii.) Should the scores need to be recalculated, the score of the offending side should stand and the score of the non-offending side recalculated as (Offending side score +15 shots).

#### 3.8.33.2. **Knock Out Play**

The offending side is disqualified. The Match Committee shall, when notified, substitute in the next succeeding round the side last defeated by the offending side.

#### 3.8.34. **Determination of State Winners**

##### 3.8.34.1. **State Finals Draw**

Sectional Draw - See State Program.

Play for the 16 Grade 1 Sides and 16 Zones (Grades 2 to 7) shall be on an open draw Sectional basis. (Four (4) sections of four).

Round 1	Round 2	Round 3
A -v- D	A -v- B	A -v- C
B -v- C	C -v- D	B -v- D

Clubs shall nominate their sides as three teams of 4 players. In each match the draw shall be Team 1 v Team 1, Team 2 v Team 2 and Team 3 v Team 3.

If sides from the same section meet in post-sectional play the Team Draw shall be Team 1 v Team 2, Team 2 v Team 3 and Team 3 v Team 1. (The side higher in the section shall be the left side of the draw.)

All matches shall be of Sixty-Three (63) ends.

Where matches are not able to be completed Fifty-Four (54) ends in aggregate shall constitute a match.

#### 3.8.35. **State Finals Method of Scoring**

##### 3.8.35.1. **Sectional Play**

As per Condition 3.8.17 Method of Scoring.

##### 3.8.35.2. **Post Sectional Play**

The top 2 placed sides in each section shall play Quarter Finals

QF1 Winner Section 1 v 2<sup>nd</sup> Section 2

QF2 Winner Section 2 v 2<sup>nd</sup> Section 1

QF3 Winner Section 3 v 2<sup>nd</sup> Section 4

QF4 Winner Section 4 v 2<sup>nd</sup> Section 3

The Winners of Quarter Finals shall play Semi Finals

The Winners of Semi Finals shall play the Final

In each post sectional match, the Side scoring the higher aggregate number of shots shall be declared the winner. If at the completion of the scheduled number of ends scores are tied an extra end or ends shall be played to determine a result.

#### 3.8.36. **Discs**

Clubs shall use their own Club coloured discs (temporary markings), if available.

If opposing sides have the same design or colour of markings and an alternative is not available, players in the side listed second in the draw must remove their markings.

See also condition 2.12.

3.8.37. **Score Board Names**

Clubs shall provide their own Club identification names for:

- (i.) Three (3) rink score boards and
- (ii.) One (1) Master-board.

3.8.38. **Awards**

3.8.38.1. ***Pennant Flags***

Winners and Runners-up Pennant Flags will be awarded to Clubs.

3.8.38.2. ***Pennant Badges***

Winners and Runners-Up Badges will be awarded to players participating in the final. (12 to each side).

An additional 2 badges (for each of the Winners and Runners-Up) will be available at State Pennant Finals for presentation to Reserves who are eligible to qualify for the award of an additional badge.

Winners and Runners-Up Badges will be awarded to the Manager and Coach of Sides participating in the final.

3.8.38.3. ***Additional Badges***

Clubs may apply for additional badges.

Clubs will be invoiced for the cost of additional badges.

3.8.38.4. ***John Young Shield***

The Club winning the State No.1 Pennant will receive the John Young Shield, to be held at the Club for the ensuing year.

3.8.38.5. ***Bowls NSW Pennants***

Winners and Runners-Up Pennants Flags will be awarded for each Grade of Pennants (No. 1 to No. 7 inclusive) as follows:

- No. 1 Pennant Union Jack Blue with White letters
- No. 2 Pennant Red with White letters
- No. 3 Pennant White with Royal Blue letters
- No. 4 Pennant Green with White letters
- No. 5 Pennant Gold with Green letters
- No. 6 Pennant Airforce Blue (Sky Blue) with White letters
- No. 7 Pennant Brown with White letters

3.8.39. **Procedure for Organisation of Pennants To be followed by Zones**

The State Match Committee has produced the procedure for organisation of State Pennants. The procedure and timeline below is designed to allow enough time for Pennants to be organised at a Zone level.

The procedure also allows time for the State Match Committee to endorse the proposed grades or seek further information or advise the relevant Zone/District of any adjustments necessary to comply with the Conditions of Play.

<b>Time of Action</b>	<b>Action</b>
Date specified by Zone	Clubs confirm request for Grades to Zone.
8 weeks	Zones make submission to State Match Committee for Proposed Pennant Competitions.
7 weeks	State Match Committee responds to Zone submissions.
6 weeks	Deadline for submission to SMC any requests for reconsideration of grade allocation.
5 weeks	SMC respond to any review requests.
4 weeks	Draws confirmed for Zones.
Each Round	Zones to check & record participation of players.
1 week after Completion of Sectional Play	Zones to submit all clubs Player Participation records and points tables for all sections
1 week after Zone Pennant Finals	Zones to submit Winners & Runners-Up of each Grade of Pennants
By date specified in Season Calendar	Clubs to submit State Pennant Finals Side Nomination Form (including Teams)

### **3.9. Other Side Events**

#### **3.9.1. Inter-Zone Sides Championships**

##### **3.9.1.1. Open**

Players shall be registered with Bowls NSW as a Bowling Member and shall have a declared Club which is affiliated with the Zone in which they are selected (refer condition 2.3).

##### **3.9.1.2. Senior**

Open to players registered who are aged 60 years or over as at 1 January 2021 (Born on or before 1/1/1961).

Players shall be registered with Bowls NSW as a Bowling Member and shall have a declared Club which is affiliated with the Zone in which they are selected (refer condition 2.3).

##### **3.9.1.3. Eligibility**

Players selected must be eligible to represent NSW, as per Bowls NSW Selection Policy.

##### **3.9.1.4. Controlling Body**

The State Match Committee shall be the Controlling Body for the Inter-Zone Sides Championship.

##### **3.9.1.5. Composition of Sides**

Each Side shall comprise of three teams, each of four players.

Zones shall nominate their players to make up their teams, nominating their teams as 'team 1', 'team 2' and 'team 3'. The draw in each match shall be team 1 v team 1, team 2 v team 2 and team 3 v team 3. Players may not be changed between teams without prior approval of the Controlling Body.

If sides from the same section meet in post-sectional play the Team Draw shall be Team 1 v Team 2, Team 2 v Team 3 and Team 3 v Team 1. (The side higher in the section shall be the left side of the draw).



#### 3.9.1.6. **Duration of Matches**

Each Match shall comprise of sixty-three (63) ends. Dead ends do not count (Twenty-one (21) ends per rink.)

#### 3.9.1.7. **Trial Ends**

Two (2) trial ends shall be permitted at the commencement of each match.

#### 3.9.1.8. **Play Not Completed**

If a match is not able to be completed (to sixty-three (63) completed ends), a minimum of fifty-four (54) completed ends shall constitute a completed match.

#### 3.9.1.9. **Determination of Section Winners**

The method of scoring for all sectional matches shall be:

<b>Side Win</b>	7 Points (Side scoring the highest aggregate number of shots)
<b>Side Tie (Draw)</b>	3.5 Points (Both Sides Score equal aggregate number of shots)
<b>Side Loss</b>	0 Points (Side scoring the lesser aggregate number of shots)
<b>Team Win (Rink win)</b>	1 Point (one point for each team of side that wins)
<b>Team Tie (Rink tie)</b>	0.5 Points (0.5 pts for each team of side that ties)

The winner of the Sectional Series of Matches shall be determined as follows:

- (i.) The Side scoring the highest number of points shall be declared the winner.
- (ii.) If there is a tie, the side with the largest difference between 'total shots for' and 'total shots against' shall be the winner.
- (iii.) If there is still a tie, the side with the lowest 'total shots against' shall be the winner.
- (iv.) If there is still a tie, the side winning the highest number of ends over all matches of the Sectional shall be declared the winner.

#### 3.9.1.10. **Post Sectional Play**

The top 2 placed sides in each section shall play Quarter Finals:

- QF1 Winner Section 1 v 2<sup>nd</sup> Section 2
- QF2 Winner Section 2 v 2<sup>nd</sup> Section 1
- QF3 Winner Section 3 v 2<sup>nd</sup> Section 4
- QF4 Winner Section 4 v 2<sup>nd</sup> Section 3

The Winners of Quarter Finals shall play Semi Finals.

The Winners of Semi Finals shall play the Final.

In each post sectional match, the Side scoring the higher aggregate number of shots shall be declared the winner. If at the completion of the scheduled number of ends scores are tied an extra end or ends shall be played to determine a result.

#### 3.9.1.11. **Variations to Conditions of Play**

The Controlling Body shall have the authority to vary Conditions of Play to bring the Championship to a successful conclusion. The Controlling Body shall consult the Side Managers of the participating sides.

The decision of the Controlling Body shall be final.

#### 3.9.2. **NSW 5-A-Side**

See separate Conditions of Play to be listed on Bowls NSW Website.

#### 3.9.3. **Club Challenge**

See separate Conditions of Play to be listed on Bowls NSW Website.

### **3.10. Club Championships**

Members entering Club Championships that are Association Events that lead to a State Championship should be allowed to play to find a winner irrespective of the number of entries received for that event.

Championships may be played as sectional, knockout or a combination of both as determined by the Club Controlling Body.

#### **3.10.1. Singles**

Club Championship Major Singles leads to State Champion of Club Champions. All Bowling Members should be eligible to enter Club (Major) Singles.

Singles shall be played as 4 bowls per player (played singly and alternately).

Matches shall be played to 31 shots up (the first player to reach 31 shots shall win the game).

Shots in excess of 31 do not count.

A Club Controlling Body may elect to conduct their initial stage of sectional play to 25 shots up (the first player to reach 25 shots shall win the game, shots in excess of 25 do not count). All knockout games shall be 31 up. If 25 up for sectional play is to be used it is to be clearly advised on all entry forms and draws for the event.

Clubs may include eligibility restrictions on the format of matches for all Non-Association Singles events but must ensure that those conditions are published before entries are called for those events.

#### **3.10.2. Pairs**

Club Championship Major Pairs leads to State Champion of Club Champions. All Bowling Members should be eligible to enter Club (Major) Pairs.

Players shall, always, be able to choose their own teams.

Pairs shall be played as 4 bowls per player, played singly and alternately in the order lead 2 bowls, skip 2 bowls then lead 2 bowls and skip 2 bowls.

Matches shall be played over 21 ends.

Clubs may include eligibility restrictions on the formations of teams and the format of matches for all Non-Association Pairs events but must ensure that those conditions are published before entries are called for those events.

#### **3.10.3. Triples & Fours**

Clubs may include eligibility restrictions on the formations of teams and the format of matches for all Club Triples & Fours events but must ensure that those conditions are published before entries are called for those events.

## **4. Forms and Links**

- a) [Clearance/Transfer](#)
- b) [Add player to Pennant Player List](#)
- c) [Bowls NSW Policies](#)
- d) [Bowls NSW Governance \(Constitution / Regulations\)](#)
- e) [Bowls Australia Policies](#)
- f) [Match Related Forms](#)

## 5. Club Pennant Grading Examples

**Club has Grades 2,3, 4, 5 and 6 in 2021.**

**Club had Grades 2,3,4,5 and 6 in 2019 and Grade 5 was Zone winner in that year.**

- All of Grade 2 players are eligible to play Grade 3
- A Maximum of six Grade 2 players are eligible to play Grade 4
- All of Grade 3 players are eligible to play Grade 4
- A maximum of 6 Grade 3 players are eligible to play Grade 5
- All of Grade 4 players are eligible to play Grade 5
- A maximum of six Grade 4 players are eligible to play Grade 6
- Any player graded 5 in 2019 is an N5 Player and is ineligible to play lower than grade 5 without first receiving permission from the State Match Committee. (Regrade)
- Grade 6 players are not restricted.

**Club has Grades 3, 5 and 7 in 2021**

**Club had Grades 3,5 and 7 in 2019**

- A maximum of six Grade 3 players are eligible to play Grade 5
- A maximum of six Grade 5 players are eligible to play Grade 7
- Grade 7 Players are not restricted

**Club has Grades 2, 4, 6 and 7 in 2021**

**Club had Grades 2, 3,4, 6 and 7 in 2019**

- A maximum of six Grade 2 players are eligible to play Grade 4
- Grade 3 players are eligible to play no lower than Grade 4.
- A maximum of six Grade 4 players are eligible to play Grade 6
- All Grade 6 players are eligible to play Grade 7
- Grade 7 Players are not restricted
- In this case, the club should ensure that the elimination of the Grade 3 side does not mean an excess of players graded higher than Grade 4 available on any week. It is the club's responsibility to ensure that they are able to select players in the grades entered and in grades they are eligible to play.

**Club has Grades 4, 6 and 7 in 2021**

**Club had Grades 4 and 6 in 2019**

- No more than six players graded higher than Grade 3 are eligible to play in Grade 4
- A maximum of six Grade 4 players are eligible to play Grade 6
- Grade 6 players are eligible to play than Grade 7.

**Club has Grades 4, 6 and 7 in 2021**

**Club had Grades 4, 5 and 6 in 2019**

- No more than six players graded higher than Grade 3 are eligible to play in Grade 4
- A maximum of six Grade 4 players are eligible to play Grade 6
- Grade 5 players are eligible to play Grade 6
- A maximum of six Grade 5 players are eligible to play Grade 7
- Grade 6 players are eligible to play than Grade 7.

**Club has Grades 4 and 2 sides in Grade 7 in 2021 Club had Grades 4 and 7 in 2019**

- A Maximum of six Grade 2 players are eligible to play in Grade 4
- A Maximum of three Grade 1 players are eligible to play in Grade 4, but they count as one of the Grade 2 players eligible (No more than 6 players who are graded above Grade 3 in total)
- A maximum of six Grade 4 players are eligible to play Grade 7
- Grade 7 Players are not restricted



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