



**2024
AUSTRALIAN
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

CONDITIONS OF PLAY

Controlling Body: Bowls Australia

Updated: July 17, 2024

Event: 2024 Australian Championships

Dates: Practice Day: Sunday 20 October 2024
Monday 21 October – Friday 25 October 2024

Venue: Broadbeach Bowls Club

1. ENTRY CONDITIONS

1.1 Affiliation

Open to all bowlers who are registered as a member of an affiliated club with a:

- 1.1.1 State or Territory Association (STA) affiliated to Bowls Australia.
- 1.1.2 National Bowling Authority that is a member of World Bowls.

1.2 Eligibility

As a condition of entry, all competitors must:

- 1.2.1 Not be currently under disqualification or suspension by their STA or their National Authority.
- 1.2.2 Comply with all applicable 'Laws of the Sport of Bowls and Domestic Regulations for Australia, Crystal Mark 4th edition April 2023, including any amendments

and Bowls Australia Policies.

- 1.2.3 Players nominating for events in the Australian Championships must be the current (2023/2024) State champion(s) in the events listed;
- 1.2.4 Men's/Women's Singles;
- 1.2.5 Men's/Women's Pairs;
- 1.2.6 Men's/Women's Triples;
- 1.2.7 Men's/Women's Fours.
- 1.2.8 Mixed Pairs
- 1.2.9 Players within teams **do not** have to be affiliated with the same club.
- 1.2.10 Players may qualify for multiple disciplines as the draw will ensure there will be no clashes.
- 1.2.11 If substitute/replacement players are required (not in singles) they must be from the same State of the player they are substituting/replacing. Domestic Regulations 2.4 and 2.5 apply to the use of substitute and replacement players.

1.3 Entry Process

- 1.3.1 All entries are to be submitted to Bowls Australia by **Friday, August 16, 2024**, by the relevant STA;
- 1.3.2 Entries are to be submitted in the following format, "Winner(s) of State Men's/Women's [insert event] - [insert player(s) names (and playing position)]" e.g., Winner of State Women's Triples - Sally Smith (lead), Lucy Johns (second), Sarah Schmitt (skip)

2. EVENT STRUCTURE

2.1 Event Structure

Men's and Women's:

- 2.1.1 Triples: Monday 21 October
- 2.1.2 Pairs: Tuesday 22 October
- 2.1.3 Fours Wednesday 23 October
- 2.1.4 Singles Thursday 24 October
- 2.1.5 Mixed Pairs Friday 25 October

2.2 Event Schedule

- 2.2.1 A proposed event schedule has been published on the Bowls Australia website (www.bowls.com.au), and the Controlling Body will endeavour to utilise these parameters for the final event schedule as much as possible.
- 2.2.2 The final event schedule will be confirmed and published one month prior to the start of the event.

- 2.2.3 The Controlling Body reserves the right to amend the proposed event schedule due to entry numbers, available greens and any other relevant factors.
- 2.2.4 If a change to the proposed schedule is to occur, the commencement date of a specific event will be moved to later in the schedule rather than earlier wherever possible, in order to minimise disruptions to inbound travel for competitors.
- 2.2.5 The Controlling Body, in case of extreme weather and unforeseen incidents, can extend the length of the tournament if required.

2.3 Competition Format

- 2.3.1 The format of play for each event will be sectional play, with two sections of four. The sections for each event will be created by a blind draw.
- 2.3.2 In a section with only 3 teams – black indicates a bye (see below)

ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3
1 v 2	1 v 3	1 v 4
3 v 4	2 v 4	2 v 3

- 2.3.3 To determine the winners, runners-up and third and fourth placings, the finals will be played in the evening on the same day as sectional play. The teams finishing first in each section will play off for first and second position, and the teams finishing second in each section will play off for third and fourth position.

2.4 Match Format

The Format of Play will be

- 2.4.1 Singles: Four bowls of a set per player, 25 shots up (shots more than 25 will not count).
- 2.4.2 Pairs & Mixed: Four bowls of a set, per player (2x2x2x2), 15 ends.
- 2.4.3 Triples: Two bowls of a set, per player, 18 ends.
- 2.4.4 Fours: Two bowls of a set, per player, 15 ends.
- 2.4.5 All dead ends must be replayed. If an end is in progress when the time-limit is reached, that end must be completed.

2.5 Time Limits

- 2.5.1 All events have a time limit of **two-and-a-half hours** (not including trial ends). There will **not** be a time limit for finals matches.
- 2.5.2 Any player/team arriving after the official start time for an event, shall lose the right to play trial ends. Any player/team arriving at the green more than 15 minutes after the official starting time for an event shall forfeit the game and the points for that game (during Sectional Play), and/or not progress through to the next round (in Knockout Play). This determination will be made by the Tournament Director on recommendation by the umpire in control of the match.

2.6 Procedure for Applying Time Limits

- 2.6.1 Trial Ends: An announcement will be made over the venue's public address (PA) system (or equivalent) for the commencement of trial ends 15 minutes before the scheduled match start time.
- 2.6.2 Start of Play: Play will commence with the sound of a horn or bell or an announcement signalling the start time over the venue's PA system.
- Those who finish trial ends early must wait for one of the above signals before commencing their match.
- 2.6.3 An announcement will be made over the venue's public address (PA) system (or equivalent) 10 minutes prior to the expiry of the time limit.
- 2.6.4 End of Play: When the time limit is reached a horn, bell or an announcement will be made over the venue's PA system. If an end is in progress when the time-limit is reached, that end must be completed (The start of an end is determined by the delivery of the jack by the first player to play in that end). All dead ends must be replayed.
- 2.6.5 Should a venue be unable to use their PA system for any reason, all matches in play should immediately be made aware of the end of timed play by the best available method.

2.7 Trial ends

- 2.7.1 One trial end in each direction will be permitted:
- Before the starting time of each game.
 - Before continuing an unfinished game on another day.
 - If a team or singles player must change greens between games.
- 2.7.2 The Controlling Body reserves the right to amend the number of trial ends played in the case of unforeseen circumstances (as per law 5.1.2, Laws of the Sport of Bowls).

2.8 Alterations to the Format and Length of Games

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

2.9 Practice

2.9.1 As per Law 4, Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

3. CONSTITUTION OF PLAYERS – SUBSTITUTES AND REPLACEMENT PLAYERS

3.1 Team nominations and the constitution of players/teams

- 3.1.1 The positions of players nominated to form a team may be changed before the first round of the event with the approval of the Controlling Body
- 3.1.2 Teams and players nominated for an event must conform to all Conditions of Play for that event.
- 3.1.3 Players and teams become constituted when the jack is rolled in the first end of the first game to be played by that player or team.
- 3.1.4 Constituted Players may change positions within a team prior to the start of any subsequent game within an event. Scorecards must be amended to reflect any change in playing positions.

3.2 Replacement or Substitute Players

- 3.2.1 Substitutes in the first round and subsequent rounds and replacement players in rounds after the first round will only be permitted if a player is physically incapable or otherwise prevented from playing. Approval for substitutes or replacement players must be sought from the Tournament Director/Event Manager or their nominee before they play in a match. This player must not have already been constituted in the event. Any replacement or substitute player must meet all conditions as listed under Domestic Regulation 2.4 and 2.5.
- 3.2.2 Only the players who complete the final match within a discipline will be eligible for medals or trophies.

4. RESTRICTING THE MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS DURING PLAY

- 4.1 Prior to the start of each end, the following players will take their position at the mat-end of the green:
 - Pairs: The leads.
 - Triples: The leads and seconds.
 - Fours: The leads and seconds with the third opting to be at either end.
- 4.2 On changeovers, the skips (in pairs, triples and fours) will move to the mat end together.
- 4.3 After delivering their first bowl, players will only be allowed to walk up to the head under the following circumstances:

4.3.1 Singles:

The opponents: After delivery of their third and fourth bowls.

4.3.2 Pairs & Mixed

The leads: After the delivery of their third bowl.

The skips: After the delivery of their third bowl.

4.3.3 Triples

The leads: After delivery of their second bowl.

The seconds: After delivery of their second bowl.

The skips: After delivery of each of their bowls.

4.3.4 Fours

The leads After the delivery of their second bowl.

The seconds: After the delivery of their second bowl.

The third: After the delivery of their second bowl.

The skip: After the delivery of each of their bowls.

4.4 Exceptional Circumstances

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

5. DELAYING PLAY

If the umpire, either by their own observation or on appeal from the opposing skips, decides that a player is deliberately delaying the delivery of their bowl or a skip is acting or issuing instructions designed to delay play they will proceed as follows:

If the umpire, either by their own observation or on appeal from the opposing skip or the opponent in singles, decides that a player is deliberately delaying the delivery of their bowl or a skip is acting or issuing instructions designed to delay play they will proceed as follows:

- 5.1 On the first occasion, the umpire will warn the player in the presence of the skip and advise both the coach and the team manager that the player has received a warning.
- 5.2 If the same player or another member of the same team commits the same offence a second time the end will be regarded as complete, and the opponents of the offender will score as many shots as there are bowls in use by such opponent.
- 5.3 If the same player or another member of the same team offends a third time the game will be forfeited to the opponent.

6. SCORING

6.3 Scorecards

- 6.3.1 The team managers and/or chosen player for each side will be responsible for collecting the scorecards for team games from the tournament office.
- 6.3.2 Following the conclusion of each match, the Team Manager from the winning team will be responsible for submitting the completed scorecards for both competing teams to the tournament office.
- 6.3.3 Final scorecards must be checked and signed by a representative of both teams, the marker and opponents in singles and the umpire in charge of that match prior to submission to the tournament office.
- 6.3.4 Errors in the result of any scorecard that has been signed by the participating players/teams will not be amended due to the impact on other results and sectional qualifiers.
- 6.3.5 All signed scorecards will be taken as final. Exceptions will only be made if the players concerned can prove to the Tournament Director that a genuine error has occurred.
- 6.3.6 The Jury of Appeal may, at its discretion, apply a further penalty on any player/team that forfeits a match for any unsubstantiated reason; penalties may include but are not limited to loss of competition points, exclusion from other events and exclusion from future Bowls Australia events.

6.5 Forfeits

- 6.5.1 In the event of a forfeit, the following distribution of game points and shots will apply:
- 6.5.2 The non-offending player/team will be awarded three game points and a net total of shots that is equal to the average net total of shots scored by the winners of all other games played in the same round.
- 6.5.3 The offending player/team (forfeiting player) will receive zero points, and the average negative net shot margin scored from all other games played in the same round

7. DETERMINATION OF WINNERS

7.1 Sectional Winners

- 7.1.1 Points will be awarded as follows:
- 3 game points for each game won.
 - 1 game point for each game drawn.
- 7.1.2 Section winners and rankings will be decided as follows:
- Highest number of game points scored will be ranked higher.

- If game points are equal, the player or team with the highest net total of shots over all games in the section (shots for minus shots against) will be ranked higher.
- If game points and net total of shots are equal, the Controlling Body will divide the total of shots scored against each player or team into the total of shots it has scored to calculate a shot percentage. The player or team with the highest shot percentage will be ranked higher.
- If game points, net total of shots and shots percentage are all equal, the player/team who won the game between the players or teams that are equal within their section will be declared the winner.

7.1.3 The winner of each section will progress through to the knockout rounds.

8. ATTIRE AND FOOTWEAR

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

8.1 Footwear

Footwear must adhere to Domestic Regulation 5.2, and must be approved for use by Bowls Australia. The approved shoe list is available on the Bowls Australia web site which can be found [here](#).

8.2 Attire

Any bowler registered with a State or Territory Association that is affiliated with Bowls Australia must adhere to the BA NMP Policy. This policy is available [here](#)

The following uniform rules will apply for the event:

- Teams where all players come from the same club should wear their **club uniform** at the event.
- Composite teams (from more than one club) are welcome to wear their individual club uniforms. If players want to match uniform they should wear either district, region, zone or state uniforms if approved by their STA.
- Variations to the above require approval from Bowls Australia as the controlling body.
- No sponsorship uniform is to be worn

8.3 Transgressions

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

9. EQUIPMENT

9.1 Stamps on Bowls

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

9.2 Marking Touchers

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

9.3 Bowls Stickers (Stick on markings)

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

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

9.3.3 Players must use any bowls stickers supplied by the Controlling Body if requested, including during the latter rounds of the event and for television/streaming matches.

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

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

10. National Integrity

Bowls Australia adopted Sports Integrity Australia's (SIA) National Integrity Framework which takes a proactive approach to mitigate integrity threats to sports and provide a safe, fair, and healthy environment for participants at all levels of Bowls. The National Integrity Framework is a set of rules that all members of our sport need to follow when it comes to their behaviour and conduct in Bowls. As a member of Bowls Australia, all participants agree to abide by all by-laws and policies as adopted by Bowls Australia including the National Integrity Framework Policies.

They can be found on our website.

[National Integrity Framework - Bowls Australia.](#)
[Constitution and Policies - Bowls Australia](#)

10.1 Anti-Doping

10.1. Bowls Australia's [National Integrity Framework](#) shall apply throughout the event.

10.1.2 Sport Integrity Australia (SIA) officials may carry out prohibited substance testing at the event. Any player identified by SIA officials must undergo testing as requested.

10.2 Smoking and Alcohol

- 10.2.1 BOWLS AUSTRALIA'S [SMOKE FREE AND ALCOHOL POLICY](#) will be enforced during all days of the event.

10.3 Match-Fixing

- 10.3.1 BOWLS AUSTRALIA'S [MATCH FIXING POLICY](#) shall apply throughout the event. All of those directly involved with the event, including but not limited to players, officials and event staff, must comply with this policy, which can be found on the BOWLS AUSTRALIA website.

10.4. Integrity Education Requirements

For BOWLS AUSTRALIA to comply with the National Integrity Framework, it is a requirement that all Players must complete the relevant Integrity Education Courses.

11. JURY OF APPEAL

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

12. PRIZE MONEY

12.1 Prize Money

- 12.1.1 There will be no prizemoney allocated to this event.

13. OTHER LAWS, REGULATIONS AND POLICIES

13.1 Photography

BOWLS AUSTRALIA reserves the right to use any photographs taken during this event for further promotional requirements. Select matches at the event may be live streamed or broadcast through BOWLS AUSTRALIA'S chosen communication channel at the discretion of the Controlling Body.

13.3 Mobile Devices

The use of personal electronic and communication devices will not be used during a match except with the expressed permission of the Controlling Body as per the [Bowls Australia Personal Electronic Devices Policy](#).

13.4 Other policies

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

14. CONTACT INFORMATION

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

- **Andrew Howie**
 - Email: ahowie@bowls.com.au
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