NATIONAL MERCHANDISE PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Upper Body Attire:

Upper body apparel is classified as (but not limited to):

- All shirts (including sleeve, sleeveless, collar and collarless
- Tops
- Blouses
- T-shirts
- Jackets/jumpers
- Vests
- Knitwear
- Rainwear

All upper body apparel, regardless if it is teamwear or non-teamwear, must be produced by a Bowls Australia licensed manufacturer and must have the NMP logo and the licensed manufacturer logo in the approved location on the garment.

NMP logo location from 1 July 2025:

- The NMP logo must be on either the right chest area or the upper right arm sleeve (above the elbow).
- If the garment is sleeveless, the NMP logo must be on either the right chest area or on the back of the garment centred and visible immediately below the collar.

Licensed Manufacturer logo location from 1 July 2025:

- The Licensed Manufacturer logo must appear on the upper left or right arm sleeve (above the elbow), or on the right chest as a logo lock-up with the NMP Logo (above or below the NMP Logo) or on the front of the garment under the placket.
- If the garment is sleeveless, the Licensed Manufacturer's logo must appear on the right chest as a lock-up with the NMP Logo (above or below the NMP Logo) or on the front of the garment under the placket or on the back of the garment centred and visible immediately below the collar.

Lower Body Attire:

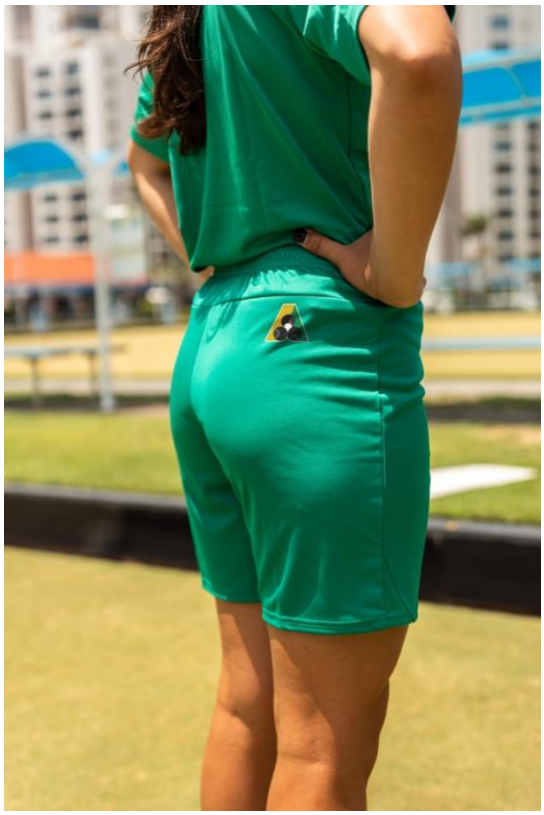
Lower body apparel is classified as (but not limited to):

- Pants
- Trousers (belt, elastic or draw string waist)
- Pedal pushers
- Culottes
- Shorts
- Skirts/skorts
- Slack suits/skirt suits
- Dresses
- Leggings

All lower body apparel, regardless if it is teamwear or non-teamwear, must be produced by a Bowls Australia licenced manufacturer and must have the NMP Logo and the licensed manufacturer logo in the approved location on the garment.

NMP Logo location:

- The NMP Logo must be placed immediately above the back right pocket or front right below pocked as determined by the BA Licensed Manufacturer.



Headwear:

Headwear is classified as broad brimmed hats, caps, bucket hats, visors and knitted hats.

The NMP Logo placement on Headwear is mandatory in Pennant, Championship Events and other Tournaments.

The NMP Logo must appear on the front or side of all headwear.

Socks:

When socks are worn with trousers, the NMP Logo is optional.

When socks are worn with pedal pushers, culottes, shorts, skirts, skorts, dresses etc, the NMP Logo must appear on the top area of the sock.

When anklet socks are worn with pedal pushers, culottes, shorts, skirts, skorts, dresses etc, the NMP Logo placement is optional. Socks not displaying the NMP Logo must be blank.

Socks with the NMP logo can be any colour, as long as the NMP logo is balanced in its appearance.

Footwear:

Bowls Australia's (BA) National Officiating Advisory Group (NOAG) are concerned with the increasingly relaxed standards for production and sale of footwear for use on Australian lawn bowling greens.

We do not seek to discourage any existing shoe manufacturer or supplier.

However, there are a small number of shoes currently on the market which will/do cause damage to bowling greens.

BA (and the NOAG), by virtue of the 'Laws of the Sport of Bowls – Crystal Mark Third Edition' are charged with the approval of footwear in relation to 'colours and types of sole'.

For this reason, please visit … to see a definitive list of the shoes currently approved for use in Australia for the sport of lawn bowls.

The list is updated whenever new footwear is approved.

In some instances, individuals have 're-soled' a non-bowls shoe in order to ensure it complies with the laws of the sport.

While this process should be a rarity with the recent improvements in shoe manufacturing, it is permissible and should be approved by the controlling body of the event or the member's state/territory association or Bowls Australia.

The NOAG have advised that the 'Lightfeet' and 'Ambak Aledge' shoes need to either be re-soled or have the ripples, and any sharp edges, ground off in order to continue to be approved for use as bowls footwear.

See the two images below, which demonstrate the soles of the shoes before and after the grinding of the ripples takes place, to reveal a flat, smooth surface.

Not allowed Allowed

Bowling Arms:

A bowlers arm is designed to assist a bowler who cannot continue to bowl without the aid of the artificial device and can be used in any competition within Australia.

Typically they are used where a person has hip/knee complaints which restrict their ability to bend down to deliver the bowl correctly.

There are currently four types of bowlers arms approved for use in Australia. They are know as ‘The Bowling Arm’, the ‘Bionic Bowler Arm’, the ‘DHB arm’ and the ‘S-R Model’. Each device is manufactured in several lengths and some include varying release mechanisms.

The bowling arm category is part of the NMP and only Bowls Australia (BA) licensed manufacturers are able to produce bowling arms for use in pennant and above competition.