



**BOWLS**  
VICTORIA

**2019-20**

**STATE CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS  
CONDITIONS OF PLAY**

## **CONDITIONS OF PLAY FOR MEN'S AND WOMEN'S:**

Singles, Pairs, Mixed Pairs, Triples and Fours Championships of Victoria,  
Victorian Singles Champion of Champions and Bowls Victoria Qualifying for the  
Australian Indoor Championship

## **Introduction**

The Board of Bowls Victoria (BV) has approved the guidance offered within these Conditions of Play. The Board reserves the right to amend the BV Championships format of play and the Conditions of Play from season to season or as required.

The BV Championships are conducted in accordance with the:

- Laws of the Sport of Bowls, Crystal Mark 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Version 3.1 and Bowls Australia (BA) Domestic Regulations (DR) as published April 2019
- BA Policies as found on the BA website; and
- Bowls Victoria (BV) Constitution, BV Regulations and BV Policies as found on the BV website.
- The BV Championship Committee is authorised to vary these Conditions of Play as necessary for the successful conduct of the events.

## **1. Responsibility**

Subject to the control of the Board, responsibility for the satisfactory conduct of all BV Championship events rests with the BV Championship Committee and can be delegated to Regions/Divisions/Clubs for events at these levels in accordance with these Conditions of Play.

## **2. Eligibility of Players**

- 2.1 All players must be affiliated with BV, a registered full financial member of a BV affiliated Club and recorded on the BV Bowls Connect Data Base.
- 2.2 For the Pairs, Triples, and Fours Championships players must be identified from Clubs within the same Division or same Region for Regions without Divisions.
- 2.3 Not currently under disqualification or suspension by their Club, state/territory association or national authority.

## **EVENTS AND ENTRIES**

### **3. Entries for all Bowls Victoria Events**

- 3.1 Entries for all BV events will be made by the due date to the Club/Division/Region in which Member(s) is identified for competition.
- 3.2 Regions, Divisions and Clubs cannot accept late entries for any BV Championship Event.
- 3.3 Teams will be constituted in accordance with Domestic Regulations 2.3.
- 3.4 If after the closing date for entries and before the date of the first round a clearance to:
  - a Club within the same Region/Division is issued the Player will remain eligible to play in the Singles event as a Player identified with their new Club;
  - a Club other than in the same Region/Division eligibility to play in the Singles events will be forfeited.
- 3.5 For Team events another eligible Player, if necessary, can take the place of the Member transferred. The Player receiving a clearance is eligible to join a Team from their new Club/Division/Region if a vacancy occurs.

#### **4. Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours Championships of Victoria**

- 4.1 Where Regions have Divisions, play will be within the Division to determine a Division winner. Division winners will then play to determine a Region winner.
- 4.2 For Regions without Divisions play will be within the Region to determine a Region winner.
- 4.3 Region winners will play knockout rounds under an open draw to produce the State Champion for each event.
- 4.4 In Team games substitute and replacement players are permitted in accordance with Law 33 and Domestic Regulations 2.4 and 2.5.
- 4.5 For the purposes of Substitute/Replacement players, the first game at Division or Region level is the beginning of that competition.

#### **5. Victorian Champion of Champions (Singles)**

- 5.1 The Champion of Champions Singles event is open to the winner of the affiliated Club's Singles Championship played in the current season.
- 5.2 The current Club champion only is eligible to compete. Substitutes are not permitted under any circumstances.
- 5.3 All rounds at Club, Division and Region level are to be an open draw of knockout play of 25 shots up. Seeding of entries is not permitted.
- 5.4 Where Regions have Divisions, play will be within Divisions to determine a Division winner. Division winners will then play to determine a Region winner.
- 5.5 For Regions without Divisions play will be within the Region to determine a Region winner.
- 5.6 The Region winners will play knockout rounds under an open draw to produce the State Champion of Champions.

### **GENERAL CONDITIONS**

#### **6. Availability for Play**

- 6.1 A Player or Team not available for play within 30 minutes (or sooner if the Controlling Body decides) of the appointed time for commencing of a game will automatically forfeit the match.
- 6.2 Players must not leave the venue on game day until eliminated from the competition or not required to mark a game. Game times may be moved, and/or extra games scheduled by the Controlling Body as required for the effective running of the event.
- 6.3 Games may be played under artificial lighting or at an alternative location.

#### **7. Trial Ends**

One trial end in each direction may be played prior to the commencement of each game in accordance with Law 5.1. Trial ends must be completed prior to the scheduled start time for the game.

#### **8. Draw**

The draw for all BV Championship events will be an open draw. Seeding of entries is not permitted.

## DURATION AND FORMAT OF MATCHES

### 9. Format

Team games played at Region/Division level may be in sectional or knockout format.

Singles Championship and Singles Champion of Champions events at all levels must be played under knockout format.

### 10. Singles Championship

Four bowls per player.

**All rounds - 25 shots up** (in excess of 25 will not count).

**All rounds must be knockout.**

Defeated players may be required to mark in subsequent rounds.

### 11. Pairs Championships

Four bowls per player. Played 2 x 2 x 2 x 2.

All rounds before Division/Region Finals:

Sectional play – 15 ends;

Knockout play – 18 ends.

Division and Regional Finals and Victorian Final 18 ends.

### 12. Triples Championships

Two bowls per player.

All rounds before Division/Region Finals:

Sectional play – 15 ends;

Knockout play – 18 ends.

Division and Region Finals and Victorian Final 18 ends.

### 13. Fours Championships

Two bowls per player.

All rounds before Division/Region Finals:

Sectional play - 15 ends;

Knockout play - 18 ends.

Division and Region Finals and Victorian Final 18 ends.

### 14. Champion of Champions (Singles)

Four bowls per player. **All rounds - 25 shots up** (in excess of 25 will not count).

**All rounds must be knockout.**

The Region winners will play knockout rounds under an open draw to produce the State Champion.

### 15. BV Australian Indoor Singles Qualifying

Four bowls per player.

Sectional play, three (3) players per Section.

Sets Play as per Law 56 – 2 sets of 9 ends with a 3-end tie-break if required.

Jack re-spotted in accordance with Law 56.5.

One trial end (**2 Bowls each**) prior to the commencement of each game.

Restriction of movement of players in accordance with BA Domestic Regulation Appendix A4.

Players will mark matches in own section where not drawn to play.

Players qualifying for the National Final are responsible for their own costs including travel, meals and accommodation.

## 16. Restricted Movement of Players (DR A.4)

- Singles:** the opponents: after delivery of their third and fourth bowls.
- Pairs:** the leads: after delivery of their third and fourth bowls and the skips: after delivery of their second, third and fourth bowls.
- 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.
- Mixed Pairs:** the leads: after delivery of their third bowl. the skips: after delivery of their second and third bowls.

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 walk up to the head earlier than described above. If a player does not meet the terms of this law, Law 13 Possession of the rink will apply.

## 17. Playing attire

- 17.1 It is the responsibility of the President of the player's Club to ensure a player is attired in accordance with the BV Rules for Attire when playing in a BV Championship event.
- 17.2 All attire must comply with Bowls Australia National Merchandise Program (NMP) Logo Policy as it relates to upper and lower body attire.  
(<http://www.bowls.com.au/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=SxTHGDVqXBw%3d&portalid=9>)
- 17.3 There is no requirement for teams to be similarly attired and participants can wear a combination of club and non-club registered attire, unless specified in the event Conditions of Play.

## 18. Bowls Identification Discs

- 18.1 Players are not required to use bowls discs (adhesive labels). If they are used, all players in the Team must use a disc of the same colour/design.
- 18.2 Where opponents have the same coloured discs, the players in Singles or Skips in a team game will toss a coin to determine which player/team shall remove their discs or use another colour disc if available.
- 18.3 Bowls discs may not cover the World Bowls Stamp/Date or the Serial Number of the Bowl and only a single layer of disc is permitted on a bowl.
- 18.4 If bowls discs are used all bowls must have discs on both sides of the bowl. The dot from the set of discs may be placed over the insignia on the bias side of the bowl in lieu of the small ring provided it is from the same set of discs.

## 19. Umpires

- 19.1 The Controlling Body must appoint an accredited Umpire to officiate.
- 19.2 If an accredited Umpire is not available an accredited Measurer may be appointed as Umpire.
- 19.3 If no accredited Umpire or Measurer is available, a competent person should be appointed as Umpire for that day.
- 19.4 An Umpires' decision is final in all circumstances except those relating to the meaning and interpretation of a Law in which case there will be a right of appeal to the Controlling Body.

## 20. Players, Coaches and Officials conduct and behaviour

20.1 All Players, Coaches and Officials are required to conduct themselves in a polite and sportsman like manner when participating or officiating in a BV Championship Events and not in any of the following behaviours:

- act in an abusive, threatening, or intimidating manner;
- use obscene, offensive, abusive, threatening, or intimidating language;
- act in an unsportsmanlike manner;
- threaten any person with physical violence or assault;
- assault any person;
- act in a manner likely to bring the sport of bowls into disrepute; or
- act in a manner likely to bring BV into disrepute.

20.2 A failure to comply can result in the Umpire applying an Instantaneous Penalty.

## 21. Smoking

21.1 BV recognises that smoking is hazardous to health and is committed to providing a healthy working and sporting environment that protects against the exposure to tobacco smoke.

21.2 In accordance with this commitment, Clubs hosting BV Championship events are required to prescribe and enforce smoke free designated areas.

## 22. Personal Electronic / Communication Devices

22.1 The use of personal electronic / communication devices on the green by a player is not permitted.

22.2 Should a Player have a legitimate reason (personal emergency or medical or emergency services personnel) to answer a mobile phone or similar they must have permission from the Controlling Body and notify the Umpire of the day prior to playing. If approved the device can be carried on the player but must be on silent / vibrating (only) and responded to on the bank away from play.

22.3 A failure to comply can result in the Umpire applying an Instantaneous Penalty.

## 23. Consumption of Alcohol

23.1 The consumption of alcohol on the green by a player whilst a match is in progress is not permitted.

23.2 A failure to comply can result in the Umpire applying an Instantaneous Penalty.

## 24. Instantaneous penalties

24.1 If an Umpire, by observation or on appeal by the Controlling Body, a Skip or an opponent in Singles that a player is non-compliant then the end shall be immediately regarded as completed and the opponent of the offender shall be awarded as many shots as there are bowls in use by the opponent(s).

24.2 If the Umpire forms an opinion on a second occasion that the same player is non-compliant, the player will be excluded from taking any further part in the game. A substitute will not be permitted, and the defaulting player/team will forfeit the game.

24.3 A warning to one player in a Team shall be considered as a warning to all players in that Team.

24.4 The Umpire shall also forward a written report about the incident to the Controlling Body within seven (7) days of the incident occurring.

## 25. Disciplinary Breaches

A player, team, side or club are subject to rule 10 of the BV Constitution, Discipline of Members. Where a matter is referred to a BV Disciplinary Committee then a player, team, side or club is subject to the determinations of that Committee. The BV Disciplinary penalty of a monetary fine (not exceeding \$1,000) and/or disqualification, and/or match points penalty and/or a replay or such other penalty as they see fit.

## **26. Damage to Green – Delivery of a jack or bowl**

- 26.1 If the Umpire by observation or on appeal by a Greens Director or their Deputy decides a player is causing damage to the green when delivering the jack or a bowl, a warning will be issued to the player and in a Team game the Skip and/or the Controlling Body advise.
- 26.2 If the Umpire forms the opinion that the player has repeated the same offence a second time, the Umpire will direct that the player must use a “dump mat” if available or retire from the game.
- 26.3 If the player retires from the game or a “dump mat” is not available a substitute player is permitted in a Team game.
- 26.4 If a player refuses to use a “dump mat” they will be a defaulting player and be removed from the game. A substitute player is not permitted.
- 26.5 A “dump mat” may only be used on a green to address an identified issue as defined above.

## **27. Damage to Green – Use of a wheelchair or walking frame**

- 27.1 If an Umpire by his own observation or on appeal by a Greens Director or their Deputy decides a player using a wheelchair or walking frame is causing damage to the green, that player must retire from the game when requested to do so by the Umpire.
- 27.2 If a player retires from the game a substitute player is permitted in a Team game.
- 27.3 If a player refuses to leave the green, they will be a defaulting player and be removed from the game and no substitute player is permitted.

## **28. Bowlers Arm**

- 28.1 The bowlers arm once used in a game must be used for the remainder of the game.
- 28.2 This does not apply to the rolling of the jack, which can be rolled either by hand or by a bowlers arm.

## **29. Arrangement for Practice**

- 29.1 Players will be able to practice on the day before the event pending availability of greens. This is to be communicated by the host venue.
- 29.2 Any additional practices on the day of play will be in accordance with Law 4.

## **30. Slow Play – Delaying Play**

- 30.1 If an Umpire by observation or on appeal by an opponent or the Controlling Body decides a player is deliberately delaying the delivery of their bowl or a Skip is acting or issuing instructions designed to delay play, a warning will be issued to the player and the Skip in a Team game.
- 30.2 If an Umpire forms the opinion that the player or Skip has repeated the same offence a second time, the end will be regarded as completed, and their Opponent will be awarded as many shots as there are bowls in use by their Opponent.

## **31. Protection – Players and Officials**

- 31.1 Should a player or official be involved in a World Bowls, Bowls Australia, Bowls Victoria, Region, Division or Club Championship, a Bowls Australia sanctioned event, an Interstate Match, a State, Region or Division trial, a BV Development Squad activity, an Under 18 game or trial, they will not be penalised should they be absent because of their involvement in a higher-level event on the same day.
- 31.2 Except for World Bowls and Bowls Australia events this protection is limited to one occasion per season. However, every endeavour should be made to accommodate a player or officials involvement in a higher level event
- 31.3 If the game cannot be rescheduled the player or official will decide which event, to compete in or officiate at.



### 32. Inclement Weather

- 32.1 BV Championship Events conducted in the Metropolitan area will be governed by the Inclement Weather/Heat and Inclement Weather/Other provisions of the Metropolitan Pennant Conditions of Play.
- 32.2 BV Championship Events conducted in Country Divisions/Regions will be governed by the provisions of the local Inclement Weather/Heat and Inclement Weather/Other provisions of the Region/Division Pennant Conditions of Play.

### 33. Death of a player

- 33.1 If a match has commenced and a participating player passes away, all games in progress at the venue will be abandoned.
- 33.2 Matches abandoned for this reason will be resumed under such conditions as the BV/Region/Division Championships Committee decides with the scores carried forward as they were when play was abandoned.

### 34. Jury of Appeal

In the event of an appeal a Jury of Appeal consisting of any three of the following will be formed:

- Tournament Director and/or nominee
- BV Officiating & Laws Chairs and/or nominee
- BV Chief Executive Officer and/or nominee
- BV President and/or nominee
- BV Member Services & Events Manager and/or nominee

### 35. Photography, Video and Live Streaming

- 35.1 Bowls Victoria reserves the right to use any photographs, video or live streaming during pennant for further promotional requirements.
- 35.2 Bowls Victoria encourages third party live broadcasting; however, this requires prior approval from Bowls Victoria. This can be done by e-mailing [media@bowlsvic.org.au](mailto:media@bowlsvic.org.au)

### 36. Non Appearance

A Region or Division has the power to apply a penalty to a player who has nominated for a State event but fail to appear at the appointed time without advising the Controlling Body at least 24 hours prior to the start of the event.

The onus is on the player to provide satisfactory reason for their non- appearance. Such penalty shall be \$50 for each occasion, payable within 21 days from the date of the event. Failure to make payment within this time will result in the person being ineligible to participate in further State events for a period of 12 months from the date of the offence.