



BOWLS
VICTORIA

2019-20
REGION & DIVISION
PENNANT COMPETITIONS
CONDITIONS OF PLAY

Introduction

The Board of Bowls Victoria has approved these Conditions of Play.

The Board reserves the right to amend the Region/Division Pennant Competition format of play and the Conditions of Play from season to season or as required.

These Conditions of Play apply to the conduct of the 2019/2020 Region/Division Pennant Competitions.

The Region/Division Pennant Competitions are conducted in accordance with the:

- Laws of the Sport of Bowls Crystal Mark 3rd edition version 3.1 and BA Domestic Regulations (DRs) as published in May 2019;
- Bowls Australia (BA) Policies and;
- Bowls Victoria (BV) Constitution, BV Regulations and BV Policies.
- No laws governing a sport can cope with every situation, and the laws governing the sport of bowls is no exception. The Laws of the Sport of Bowls have been drawn up in the spirit of true sportsmanship. So, if a situation arises that is not covered by the laws or these Conditions of Play, players and officials must use their common sense and a spirit of fair play to decide the appropriate course of action.

1. Eligibility of Member Clubs

Clubs may enter a Side or Sides in the Region/Division Pennant Competition. Sides will be assigned a division depending on the promotion or relegation requirements applicable from the previous season, unless otherwise determined by the Region/Division Pennant Committee.

2. Competition format

The number of Divisions will depend on the number of entries received.

3. Alteration to Conditions of Play

A Region/Division Pennant Committee reserves the right to alter or amend the conditions of play as it considers necessary, so long as any alteration is not in conflict with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls or Domestic Regulations.

4. Disciplinary Breaches

4.1. 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.

5. Side entry

5.1 A Club may enter any number of Sides up to the maximum number which can be accommodated on the rinks available for its use.

5.2 Sides of a Club will be numbered 1, 2, 3, 4 etc. in descending order of ability.

6. Insufficient players to enter a side

6.1 A Club may seek approval from the Region/Division Pennant Committee to combine with another Club or Clubs to enter a side in the lowest Division available.

6.2 The application must be made by the Club accepting responsibility for the Side and be accompanied by written approval of the other Club or Clubs.

6.3 If a combined side is approved the players are permitted to wear their respective club shirts and cap. If bowls discs are used all members of the combined side must use discs that are of the same colour/design.

6.4 If a Club does not have sufficient players to form a Side for the Club's lowest numbered Side, the Side can play with one or more Teams playing in accordance with DR 2.4.

7. Controlling body on day of play

The Controlling Body for matters arising on the day of play is the Host Club.

8. Side manager on day of play

8.1 Wherever a Law or Regulation gives a Side a right of decision or choice, it will be exercised by the Side Manager who will act on behalf of the Side.

8.2 The Side Manager must not be the Umpire of the day.

9. Eligibility of players

9.1. Clubs must ensure all players are registered BV Members prior to the commencement of the match in question. A breach of this requirement will result in forfeiture of the game to the opponent.

9.2. All players must be selected on ability.

9.3. Gender cannot be used as a selection consideration.

10. Single Sex and Restrictions on positions each sex may play

10.1 Regions/Divisions in making decisions on single sex competitions and determining the positions each sex may play in, must ensure that they are in-line with equal opportunity requirements.

10.2 This only applies to Midweek Pennant, Weekend Pennant is open with no restrictions

11. Selection of Sides

11.1 If there are insufficient players available on a day of play to fill all Sides entered by the Club, the lowest numbered Side must be the Side which forfeits.

11.2 A Player will not play in more than one Side in the same round of the same Region/Division Pennant Competition.

12. Interchanging of a player between sides prior to finals

12.1 Prior to the last four rounds of a Region/Division Pennant Competition, there will be no restrictions on the interchange of players between the sides of a club.

12.2 For the last four rounds of a Region/Division Pennant Competition, no Side will include more than three players who have played a majority of their games, prior to the fourth last game, in any combination of higher numbered Sides.

13. Interchanging of a player between sides in finals

13.1 A Side may not include any player who during the current season has played less than four games for the Club in that Division/Region Pennant Competition.

13.2 A Side may not include any player who, during the current season has played more than four games in any combination of higher numbered Sides unless the player has also played in four or more games in the Side concerned and/or a lower numbered Side.

13.3 The provisions relating to the interchange of players between sides in finals also apply to players involved in combined sides formed under clauses 5.3

13.4 A Club who has insufficient eligible players for any finals of a Region/Division Pennant Competition may apply to the Region/Division Pennant Committee for approval to play other players from the Club. If this approval is granted then such players may play in any position other than Skip.

14. Substitute player during the season including finals

14.1 If a player becomes unable to play in the match for reasons arising after the commencement of the match, an eligible substitute is permitted in accordance with Law 33.2 & DR 2.4.

14.2 Only one substitute is permitted in each Team.

15. Incomplete side at commencement of a match

- 15.1 If at the time a match is due to commence (both fours and triples) a player is absent DR 2.4 will apply.
- 15.2 The Skip of both teams carry the scorecard and updates the score at the completion of each end.
- 15.3 The opponents with a complete team will have their second play consecutive bowls (DR 2.6.1.1, 2.6.1.2 & 2.6.1.3).
- 15.4 If the absent player arrives late, they must take their original place in the team and enter the match at the completion of the end in progress.

16. Incomplete side after a match has commenced

- 16.1 If a player who has commenced the match cannot continue and there is no eligible substitute available, a team may play with an absent player. The absent player is deemed to be the second.
- 16.2 The Skips of both teams carry the scorecard and update the score at completion of each end.
- 16.3 The opponents with a complete team will have their second play consecutive bowls (DR 2.6.1.1, 2.6.1.2 & 2.6.1.3).
- 16.4 If a player who leaves the match subsequently becomes available they must re-join the team in their original place in the team at the completion of the end in progress.
- 16.5 If a substitute player is available, the Controlling Body may allow them to enter the match at the completion of the end in progress.

17. Points allocated for a match

The Region/Division Pennant Committee will determine the allocation of points for a:

- Side win.
- Side receiving forfeit or walkover.
- Side giving forfeit or walkover.
- Side tie.
- Team win or forfeit.
- Team tie.
- Bye.
- Walkovers resulting from a Side withdrawal (including the withdrawal of a Side after the season has commenced).
- Game abandoned.

18. Pennant check form submitted to Region/Division

The procedure for submitting results and Pennant Check Forms will be determined by the Region/Division Pennant Committee.

19. Pennant check form for a side forfeit or walkover

- 19.1 Both Sides must complete a Form showing which Side has given the walkover.
- 19.2 A Side receiving a walkover must also enter the intended players names to enable players who would have played in the match to qualify for Finals.

20. Pennant check form for a side with a bye

A Form must be completed showing a Bye with the intended player's names entered to enable players who would have played in the match to qualify for Finals.

21. Alterations to a pennant check form

Clubs may seek a correction to the Pennant Check Form if an alteration is received in writing endorsed by both Clubs within 5 days of the match being completed.

22. Points when play is abandoned

22.1 Points will be shared by Sides when all matches scheduled for that day are abandoned.

22.2 A forfeit or walkover in that Division will count as a completed match.

23. Match abandoned by agreement before play or during play before a result is obtained

Each Side will share equally the maximum points available.

24. Match abandoned by agreement during play and a result is possible

Points will be allocated as if the match had been completed, using the scores at the time the match was abandoned.

25. Post sectional knock-out match abandoned inclement weather heat/not heat

Every effort must be made to complete a post-sectional (knockout) match on the scheduled day. If a post sectional match is abandoned, it will be rescheduled and completed under such conditions as the Region/Division Pennant Committee decides.

26. Division results by round

26.1 The order of Sides in each division will be determined by the total points gained.

26.2 If two or more Sides have the same number of points their order will be determined by net margin of shots 'for' minus shots 'against' each Side.

26.3 If net margins be equal the order will be determined by the higher proportion of 'total shots for' divided by 'total shots against'.

26.4 If there is still a tie for a position to qualify for finals play, the Sides concerned will play a deciding match.

27. Promotion and relegation

Promotion and relegation arrangements will be determined by the Region/Division Pennant Committee.

28. Commencement time

Matches will commence at a time determined by the Region/Division Pennant Committee. Two trial ends will be completed before the scheduled commencement time.

29. Pre-match pennant practice

The provision for Pre-Pennant Practice will be as determined by the Region/Division Pennant Committee.

30. Draw for rinks

30.1 The rink draw will be conducted prior to the commencement of the match by the Side Managers.

30.2 The cards will be shuffled and exchanged with the cards of one Side being placed name face down by one Manager then the other Manager will place a card face down on each card.

31. Allocation of rinks

31.1 Rinks must be consecutively numbered. A Side will play on consecutively numbered rinks preferably on the same green.

31.2 The separation of teams that are part of a Side is not permitted on the same green.

31.3 Where more than one green is required, a Side will be play on those rinks which have been consecutively numbered for both greens.

32. Condition of green

- 32.1 A green must be suitable for play. If a green is found to be unsuitable, a Club may be directed by the Region/Division Pennant Committee to make alternative arrangements.
- 32.2 If a satisfactory alternative green cannot be found, the Club may be directed by the Region/Division Pennant Committee to forfeit games.
- 32.3 BV recommends the speed for greens for the conduct of a Pennant Competition range between 13 and 17 seconds.

33. Timing of greens at home club discretion

The Region/Division Pennant Committee will determine the requirements and procedures for timing of the green.

34. Use of alternative venue for home games on day of play

- 34.1 When a Club enter more Sides than can be catered for at home the Club must nominate the Side(s) to use the alternative venue prior to the commencement of the pennant season.
- 34.2 If during the pennant season it is necessary to transfer a home game to an alternative venue, the Club must get agreement from the opposing side. If agreement can't be reached between the clubs it will be referred to the Chair, Region/Division Pennant Committee for resolution.
- 34.3 Where the home green is available, a Side will be allocated to play at the home green in order of seniority of the Sides drawn to play at home.

35. Duration of match

The Region/Division Pennant Committee will determine the duration of a match.

36. Scheduled break

The Region/Division Pennant Committee will determine arrangements for schedule breaks.

37. Delaying play

- 37.1 If an Umpire by his own observation or on appeal by a Side Manager 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 Skip.
- 37.2 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.

38. Damage to green - Delivery of a jack or bowl

- 38.1 If the Umpire by his own 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's Skip and/or Side Manager advised.
- 38.2 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.
- 38.3 If a "dump mat" is not be available or the player refuses to use it, they will be a defaulting player and be removed from the game (Laws of the Sport Definition C.2). A substitute player is not permitted (DR 2.6.1.1, 2.6.1.2 & 2.6.1.3).
- 38.4 A "dump mat" may only be used on a green to address an identified issue as defined above. That is, for an individual player/s

39. Damage to green - Use of a wheelchair or walking frame

- 39.1 If an Umpire by his own observation or on appeal by the 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 green when requested to do so by the Umpire.

39.2 If a player retires from the match a substitute player is permitted.

39.3 If a player refuses to leave the green, they will be a defaulting player and be removed from the match (Definition C.2) and no substitute player is permitted.

40. Bowler's arm

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

41. Inclement weather

An inclement weather policy suitable for local conditions will be developed by the Region/Division Pennant Committee.

42. Player, Coach and Officials conduct & behaviour

42.1. All players, Coaches and Officials are required to conduct themselves in a polite and sports like manner when participating or officiating in a Metropolitan Pennant Competition and not in any of the following behaviours:

- 42.1.1. act in an abusive, threatening, or intimidating manner;
- 42.1.2. use obscene, offensive, abusive, threatening, or intimidating language;
- 42.1.3. act in an unsportsmanlike manner;
- 42.1.4. threaten any person with physical violence or assault;
- 42.1.5. assault any person;
- 42.1.6. act in a manner likely to bring the sport of bowls into disrepute; or
- 42.1.7. act in a manner likely to bring Bowls Victoria into disrepute.

42.2. A failure to comply can result in the Umpire applying an Instantaneous Penalty (Clause 46) and/or disciplinary action taken in accordance with Disciplinary Breaches (Clause 4).

43. Smoking

43.1 Smoking on the green (defined as having a lit cigarette, pipe, cigar, electronic nicotine delivery system (ENDS) including e-cigs, e-cigarettes and any other form of smoking device) by a player on the green is not permitted.

43.2 Smoking is only permitted in the designated area as determined by the host club.

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

44. Personal electronic/communication devices

44.1 The use of Mobile Phones/MP3 Players/iPods/iPads/Pagers/Communication Devices and/or other similar Sound/Communication Devices on the green by a player is not permitted.

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

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

45. Consumption of alcohol

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

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

46. Instantaneous Penalties

46.1 If an Umpire, by observation or on an appeal by the Controlling Body, a Side Manager, a Skip or an opponent decides 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 opponents.

- 46.2 If the Umpire forms the 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.
- 46.3 An instantaneous penalty applied to one player in a Team shall be considered as an instantaneous penalty to all players in that Team.
- 46.4 Any of the above Umpire imposed sanctions are final and cannot be contested, disregarded or appealed.
- 46.5 The Umpire shall also complete a BA instantaneous Report Form and forward it to the Controlling Body within five (5) days of the incident.

<https://www.bowls.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/INSTANTANEOUS-PENALTY-REPORT-2019I-JR.pdf>

47. Bowls identification discs

- 47.1 Sides are not required to use bowls discs (adhesive labels).
- 47.2 If they are used then all players in the Side must use a disc of the same colour/design.
- 47.3 Where opponents use the same coloured discs, the visiting Side shall remove theirs or use another colour if available.
- 47.4 Only a single layer of disc is permitted on a bowl.
- 47.5 Bowls discs may not cover the WB Stamp/Date or the Serial Number of the Bowl and they should be cut or trimmed to comply.
- 47.6 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 used by the Side.

48. Pennant permit

- 48.1 A player can be approved to play with another Club other than their Nominated Club by submitting a Pennant Permit Request Form to BV prior to Round 4 of Pennant Competition they wish to play in. No application will be considered after Round 4. This Form must be endorsed by both Clubs.
- 48.2 If approved by BV, a permit remains in place until 30 June of the following year and the player is not eligible to play for their Nominated Club until the permit expires.
- 48.3 A player may apply for a clearance from their Nominated Club while a permit is in place and the permit automatically expires.
- 48.4 A player may only apply for one permit for a Pennant Competition.
- 48.5 A player with a Pennant Permit may not play in the Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours Championships at their Permit Club. The ability to play in other events is at the discretion of the Club conducting the event.
- 48.6 A player with a Pennant Permit may not play in the Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours Championships of a Region/Division other than that of their Nominated Club and is not eligible to represent a Region/Division other than that of their Nominated Club.

49. Rules for attire

- 49.1. 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 Region & Division Pennant Competition.

- 49.2. All attire must comply with Bowls Australia National Merchandise Program (NMP) Logo Policy as it relates to upper and lower body attire.
- 49.3. For Pennant, bowlers must be attired in the same club, upper body attire in respect to image and colour.
- 49.4. All lower body attire must include the NMP logo immediately above the back-right pocket or front right below pocket.
- 49.5. If BV registered shirts/tops are worn, all members of the side must be in the same attire (Except for a combined side Refer 3.3)
- 49.6. The NMP Logo must appear on the front or side of all headwear, except on hats with a club hat band, where a logo is not required.
- 49.7. Failure to comply may result in a penalty under Clause 4 Infringements.

50. Umpire

- 50.1 The Club who is designated as the Home Club must appoint an accredited Umpire to officiate.
- 50.2 If the Home Club does not have an accredited Umpire available then a visiting accredited Umpire may be appointed to officiate. Alternatively, if no accredited Umpire is available then an accredited Measurer may be appointed Umpire.
- 50.3 If no accredited Umpire or Measurer is available then a competent player from the Home Club should be appointed to act as Umpire for the day.
- 50.4 An Umpires' decision is final and cannot be contested, disregarded or appealed except for matters relating to the meaning and interpretation of a Law.
- 50.5 The umpire of the day must resolve any matter where the Skips and Side Managers can not agree.
- 50.6 Side Manager must not be the Umpire of the day.

51. Playing of music

If music is played during a pennant game, it should be appropriate in content, not impact on the conduct of the game and be at a level acceptable to Side Managers. The umpire of the day will make the final decision if Side Managers cannot agree.

52. Death of a player

- 52.1 If a match including a Final has commenced and a participating player passes away all games in progress at the Club will be abandoned.
- 52.2 Matches other than a Final abandoned because of a death of a player will count as a tie unless the scores are such that one Side must win the match if all the remaining ends were played.
- 52.2 In that case, the Side will be awarded the match with the scores as at the abandonment.
- 52.3 Finals matches abandoned because of a death of a participating player will be resumed under such conditions as the Region/Division Pennant Committee decides with the scores carried forward as they were when play was abandoned unless the scores are such that one Side must win the match if all the remaining ends were played.

53. Protected Events

- 53.1 The BV Victorian Open (15-22 November) is a protected event. Region/Division Pennant cannot be scheduled during the running of the event and the scheduling/playing of rounds of Region

State Championships and Club Championship events during Victorian Open is prohibited.

53.2 No exemptions will be given for the conduct of Region/Club Championships during this time.

54. Region/Division adjustments or extra requirements

In addition to the above conditions a Region/Division may incorporate provisions from the Metropolitan Pennant Conditions of Play as appropriate.

55. Photographs, Videos and Livestreaming

55.1 Bowls Victoria reserves the right to use any photographs, video or live streaming during pennant for further promotional requirements.

55.2 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.

INDEX

Condition	
Abandoned	
Allocation of points	16, 21
By agreement	22, 23
Post Sectional	24
Inclement weather	24, 40
Alcohol, Consumption of	44
Allocation of Rinks	30
Alternate Venues – Use of	33
Attire	48
Behaviour – Player	41
Bowlers Arm	39
Bowls identification discs	5.3, 46
Break, schedule	35
Bye Pennant Check Points	19
Coach conduct and behaviour	41-45
Commencement Time	27
Communication Devices	43
Competition format	2
Conduct – Player	41
Consumption of Alcohol	44
Clearance - Pennant Permit	47
Condition of Green	31
Conditions of Play – alteration to	3
Controlling Body	6, 15, 43, 45
Damage to Green	37, 38
Death of a Player	51
Delaying play	36
Discs (Adhesive stickers)	5, 46
Division Results by Round	25
Draw for Rinks	29
Duration of match	34
Eligibility	1, 8
Forfeit	10, 16, 18, 21
Green,	
Allocation of Rinks	30
Condition	31
Damage	37,38
Timing of	32
Identification discs	5, 46
Inclement weather	40
Incomplete Side	14, 15
Insufficient players	5,10
Instantaneous Penalties	41, 42, 43, 44, 45
Interchange of Players	
Sectional Play	11
Finals	12
Manager, Duties	7, 29, 36, 41, 45, 49, 50
Match, Abandoned	21, 22, 23, 24
Music	50
Notification of results	17, 18, 19
Officials conduct and behaviour	41-45
Protected Events	52
Region/Division adjustments to CoP	
Pennant Permit	47
Pennant Check Form	17, 18, 19, 20
Alteration to	20
Personal Electronic Communication Devices	43
Playing Attire	48
Player Conduct and Behaviour	41-45

INDEX

	Condition
Points allocated for a match	16, 21
Photographs, videos and live streaming	54
Pre-Match Practice	28
Promotion and Relegation	26
Rinks	
Allocation of	30
Draw for	29
Rules for Attire	48
Scheduled break	35
Selection of sides	10
Side Entry	4
Side Manager, Duties	7, 29, 36, 41, 45, 49, 50
Single Sex – restriction on positions in a team	9
Smoking	42
Substitute	13, 15, 45
Timing of Green	32
Trial Ends	27
Umpire	7, 36, 37, 38, 41-45
Appointment of	49
Walking frames/Wheelchairs	38
Walkover	16, 18, 21
Wheelchairs/walking frames	38



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