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## GENERAL INFORMATION

### 1. ALLOCATION OF EVENT & COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

- (a) The Match Committee shall call for Expressions of Interest from Clubs to host the State Finals of the Event.
- (b) The Event Committee shall comprise the Match Committee Members who may co-opt others as required.

### 2. CONTROL & CONDUCT OF STATE FINAL

- (a) The State Match Committee as the Controlling Body for the State Finals shall control the Event and reserve the right to alter the format, times of play and greens to suit unforeseen circumstances, giving as much notice as practical, to achieve a result.
- (b) A Disputes Committee shall comprise the Match Co-ordinator or nominee, as well the State Umpire Co-ordinator or nominee.

### 3. DIVISION OF STATE FOR GROUP PLAY-OFFS

- (a) The State shall be divided into eight (8) Groups as follows:
  - Group 1: Gateway, Gold Coast/Tweed
  - Group 2: Cunningham, Downs
  - Group 3: Condamine, Maranoa/Warrego, Southern Downs
  - Group 4: Brisbane, Moreton Bay, Sunshine Coast
  - Group 5: Burnett, Fraser Coast
  - Group 6: Bundaberg, Central Qld, Port Curtis
  - Group 7: Leichhardt, Mackay
  - Group 8: North Qld, North-West Qld, Tropical Far North Qld
- (b) Play-offs by mutual agreement between the competing districts however the host club for the playoffs should be in a reasonably central location and where possible this club should be a neutral venue.
- (c) **The Competition will commence at Club level.**

### 4. ELIGIBILITY

- (a) The competition is open to financial male and female members of clubs affiliated with the District within its group shall be eligible to play.
- (b) **Note!** This means that all members of a team must belong to the same club. To be eligible to play in these events players must be declared or non-declared bowling members of the club at the time entries close. Any substitutes or replacement players **must** also meet this criteria to be eligible to act as a substitute or a replacement player. At a club's discretion they **may** commence this competition at any time after the 1<sup>st</sup> November in the preceding year. However all clubs should have this event completed in the championship year in line with their district calendar. Failure to complete these events by this date shall mean that a club is excluded from their district playoffs.
- (c) This Competition is restricted to the teams who have won the current year's Event. However if a team is forfeited against at club, District or Group level then that team may progress to the next round. Clubs may at their discretion either play an intra club competition or just nominate one side that then progresses to District level as the club winner. If a Club fails to complete its current year's Events in this category by the date set down for the commencement of its Group play-offs, then that Club is ineligible to compete in that particular category in that year's Event.
- (d) Bowls Queensland Bylaw 9.1 states any dual club member can only play for one club in this event. Any member who has played in this Event is not eligible to substitute in this competition and in the event of a Member so acting as a substitute they, and the Club which they played for as a substitute for will be disqualified.
- (e) At club and district level this is a knockout event however if a club/District wishes to play a round robin owing to lack of player numbers then this is acceptable. Players under suspension or expulsion are ineligible to play.

### 5. NOMINATIONS

**It is a condition of entry for this Event that all players are familiar with and accept these Conditions of Play.**

**NOTE: All relevant umpires, Club and District officials must also be fully familiar with these Conditions of Play.**

**6. TRANSFERS**

- (a) Where a member transfers to another Club/District they are only eligible to represent that Club/District if they have not participated in any competition leading to this Event qualifications in their previous Club.
- (b) If a member has won this Event in the current season in a Club and decides to transfer to another Club in the same District, then, provided they retain membership of the first Club, they are eligible to play in this Event. However, if they resign from their Event Club, then they forfeit their right to participate and cannot be substituted.
- (c) If a member has won this Event in the current season in a District and decides to transfer to another District, then, provided they retain membership of the first District, they are eligible to play in this Event. However, if they resign from their Event District, then they forfeit their right to participate.

**7. PENALTY**

Any contravention of these conditions shall result in disqualification from the Event.

**8. FEES**

**District & Group Level.** As per host club ruling rate.

**State Finals:** \$20.00 per player per discipline is to be forwarded to Bowls Queensland with the notification of the group winners. (\$160.00 per Side). It is the responsibility of the group host District to ensure that these fees are forwarded with the nomination form.

**NOTE:** If these fees are not paid then the team will not be eligible to play in these events.

**9. RINKS**

- (a) For Pairs and Fours matches, all venue Clubs are requested to play the morning matches in an east-west direction, and the afternoon matches in a north-south direction.
- (b) In unforeseen circumstances the Match Committee may require players/teams to play on the same rink more than once on the same day.
- (c) It is preferred that all rinks at venue Clubs shall be as per Law 49.2 and all rinks should be a minimum of 4.5 metres in width.
- (d) For some Events, the Match Committees will allocate the rinks for play. In these cases, the venue Clubs will be advised.
- (e) The Match Committees retain the right to conduct the event on synthetic, natural, or covered greens or any combination thereof. It is preferable for greens to be running at between 14-18 secs where possible.

**10. PLAY-OFFS**

- (a) **District and Group Play-offs:** These will be a knockout competition for Groups with only two (2) Districts or round robin for Groups with three (3) or more Districts. **(No extra ends for this format).**
- (b) Matches will be; 4 Bowl Pairs and Fours – twenty-one (21) ends.
- (c) **The Host District for Group play-offs to conduct play and notify the respective Match Committee of the Group winner/s by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024 or immediately the matches have been finalized, if completed before Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2024.**
- (d) Each Group/District conducting these play-off matches is required to notify the BQ Match Committee of the proposed dates and the venue Club hosting these matches on their behalf.

**11. STATE FINALS**

- (a) These are to be played during the period Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 November 2024, at areas and venues to be advised.
- (b) The program will be advised as soon as players and teams names become available and when the Draw is completed.
- (c) Meals will be at players' expense and lunches are to be ordered prior to play commencing each day.

**12. PRIZE MONEY / BADGES FOR FINALS**

Prize money – as determined by the Board

Gold, Silver and Bronze suitably inscribed medallions shall be awarded to the respective winning players.

**NOTE:** All players who are in a presentation **must** be dressed in their playing attire at the presentations or risk forfeiting any prize money or trophy.

**13. BADGES**

Group winners will receive suitably inscribed badges.

## CONDITIONS OF PLAY – STATE FINALS

### 1. THE COMPETITION

- (a) The Competition shall be known as the Bowls Queensland State 8 A Side Event.
- (b) All matches shall be conducted strictly in accordance with the “Laws of the Sport of Bowls” – Crystal Mark 4 Edition with Domestic Regulations for Australia, Bowls Australia Policies, Bowls Queensland By-laws, and these Conditions of Play.
- (c) **The disciplines shall be 2 x Mixed Four Bowl Pairs teams, (1 man and one woman per team) and Mixed Fours (Equal number of Men and Women).**
- (d) All Events shall be subject to an Open Draw.
- (e) A match shall be between two (2) sides. All sides shall contest Rounds 1 – 3 inclusive as set out in the Draw and Playing Timetable, conditions permitting.
- (f) The eight (8) Group winners will be divided into two (2) sections (1 & 2) of four (4) sides by Open Draw, with a round robin to be played in each section. The section winners will then play each other in the Final and section runners-up shall play off for Bronze.

### 2. TRIAL ENDS

- (a) Trial ends shall be under the control of the State Controlling Body. Trial ends may be allowed as per Law 5.1 if time permits.
- (b) In the event of a side receiving a bye and not playing in the first match of the day, then they may be entitled to practice as per Law 4, and at the discretion of the controlling body may be allowed trial ends in accordance with Law 5.1.
- (c) Practice shall not be allowed at the venue Club after one (1) hour prior to the scheduled starting time on the day of play.
- (d) Trial Ends before Finals play will be at the discretion of the Match Committee.

### 3. PLAYING SCHEDULE

#### Timetable

Fours:	Saturday:	Round 1 at 8.30am	Round 2 at 1.00pm or earlier if possible
	Sunday:	Round 3 at 8.30am	Finals at 12:45pm (approx.)
Pairs:	Saturday:	Round 1 at 8.30am	Round 2 at 1.00pm or earlier if possible
	Sunday:	Round 3 at 8.30am	Finals at 12:45pm (approx.)

#### (a) Order of Play (For each Section)

- (i) Round 1: 1 v 2 3 v 4 Round 2: 1 v 3 2 v 4 Round 3: 1 v 4 2 v 3
- (ii) A Bye shall be played as drawn.

- 4. **DEAD ENDS:** Dead ends shall be replayed as per Law 20. If the end is made dead after the bell then that end shall be replayed. If that end is made dead then the jack is placed behind the tee and play continues.

### 5. DURATION OF PLAY

#### Sectional

- (a) Four bowl Pairs and Fours shall play twenty-one (21) ends with a time limit of 3 hours 45 mins.

#### Finals

- (a) Pairs and Fours shall play twenty-one (21) ends with no time limit.

### 6. UNCOMPLETED MATCH / COMPETITION

- (a) If a side match is not completed because of inclement weather, bad light or any other justifiable cause, then Sixteen (16) ends shall constitute a match in sectional play and the Finals.  
If a team is unable to complete any game already commenced, their opponents shall be awarded the maximum match points for that game.
- (b) The completion of two (2) Rounds in sectional play shall constitute the completion of the competition.  
**(Note: Any end not completed when the bell is rung to cease play due to inclement or hazardous weather, SHALL NOT be completed but should be declared dead. However, if all bowls in the end have been played, then the number of shots scored should be decided before the game stops as per Law 32.3).**

### 7. SCORING IN SECTIONAL PLAY

- (a) The side scoring the highest number of shots in each match at the end of play, shall be the winner.
- (b) Two (2) match points shall be awarded for each such win.
- (c) In the event of an overall tied score, each side shall be awarded one (1) match point.
- (d) Match points shall be recorded together with shots for and against and also the margin.

**8. DETERMINING SECTION/FINAL WINNERS**

- (a) The side scoring the highest number of **match points** shall be declared the winner.
- (b) In the event of two (2) or more sides scoring an equal number of match points, the sides with the highest difference between "total shots for" and "total shots against" (**margin**) shall be declared the winner.
- (c) If there is still equality, the "total shots against" each side shall be divided into the "total shots for" each side. The team with the **highest result** shall be declared the winner.
- (d) **In Finals** (a) and (b) apply but if at the time limit or number of ends there is an equality an extra end will be played.

**9. BYES IN SECTIONAL PLAY**

These affect all teams in a section equally and no score need be recorded when a team/side receives a bye.

**10. PLAYER MOVEMENTS DURING PLAY**

**Note:** Players will only be allowed to walk up to the head as follows:

**(a) Pairs**

- The Leads: after delivery of their fourth bowl.
- The Skips: after delivery of their second, third and fourth bowls.

**(b) Fours**

- The Leads and Seconds: after both the Seconds have delivered their second bowl.
- The Thirds: after both the Thirds have delivered their second bowl.
- The Skips: May go to the head after either Skip's first bowl

Restricting the movement of players does not prohibit a player being called to the head by the Skip, however care should be taken not to delay play.

**(c) Player Position**

Players, excluding skips, are not permitted to remain at the head whilst their opposite number is delivering their bowl. Any skip remaining at the head end shall retire behind the head. Skips must return to the mat as soon as their opponent's bowl has come to rest.

**(d) Delaying play**

If the umpire, either by their own observation or on appeal from one of the skips, decides that a team is playing in an unsportsmanlike manner by deliberately delaying play:

- On the first occasion the umpire will warn the team;
- If the team commits the same offence a second time the end will be regarded as completed and the opponents of the offenders will score as many shots as there are bowls in use by such opponents; and
- If the player offends the third time the game will be forfeited to the opponent/s.

**10. POSITION OF PLAYERS WHEN NOT PLAYING**

- (a) Players at the mat end not delivering a bowl should stand a minimum of one (1) metre behind the mat.
- (b) Players at the head end of the rink and who are not controlling play must stand behind the jack if they are members of the team which is in possession of the rink
- (c) Players at the head end of the rink should stand behind the jack if they are members of the team which is not in possession of the rink, or
- (d) On the surrounds of the green if the jack is in the ditch, or
- (e) Well clear of the head if it is not possible to stand on the surrounds.
- (f) At the start of each end only the Skip or Deputy will be at the head

**11. WITHDRAWALS & FORFEITS**

**(a) Withdrawals**

- (i) If a side withdraws before the start of play, this will be treated as a bye and no score need be recorded as all sides will be equally affected.
- (ii) Any side intending to withdraw, must notify the respective Controlling Body and venue Club not later than the scheduled commencement time on the day of play. No side may withdraw without permission of the Match Committee.

**(b) Forfeits/Withdrawals**

- (i) Should a forfeit occur during sectional play, the remaining sides shall be credited with two (2) points for the win and a shots margin equal to the average of net shots margins recorded in all matches played in that round in that section. Fractions shall not count.
- (ii) Players/teams that withdraw/forfeit the last round of sectional play up to the Group play-off in any discipline, shall be disqualified from winning the section if a side has scored equal highest points with any other team in that section. **NB. In the State Finals, last round withdrawal is not permitted.**

- (iii) Should any player in any match fail to arrive within fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled starting time the opponent/s shall be awarded the match.
- (iv) Should both sides fail to arrive within fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled starting time, then both sides shall forfeit the right to continue.
- (v) **Any side that withdraws/forfeits a match and fails to give a satisfactory explanation may have their nomination refused for any Bowls Queensland fixture/competition for the ensuing twelve (12) months and/or be liable to a one hundred dollar (\$100) fine per player for non-appearance.**

## 12. SUBSTITUTES

Eligible substitutes are permitted throughout the competition.

**Note:** If a substitute is required at Group level and above the Controlling Body and Bowls Queensland must be advised in writing including a valid reason, the name of the substitute and who the player is substituting for in each and every circumstance. Owing to some abuse of the substitute Law the BQ Match Committee will have very strict guidelines regarding what will be allowed for the granting of a substitute for these events. The Umpire of the day must also be notified of any substitutes. **Note:** There will be no substitutes/replacement players allowed for ineligible players. Should any club or District allow a substitute/replacement player for an ineligible player the offending club or District will be forfeited from all State events for the current year See General Conditions of Play clause 4(a).

**PLEASE NOTE.** Requests for substitutes/replacement players at the club and District level are to be determined by the club or District as appropriate. Requests for substitutes/replacement players at the group and state level are to be sent to Bowls Queensland for adjudication.

## 13. DISQUALIFICATION

**Should there be a Challenge to Bowls under Law 52.4 during Sectional or Post Sectional or Knockout play a player may play with another set of Legal bowls until the result of the test is known.**

- (a) If there is a Challenge to Bowls in the final the result of that final shall not be declared until the outcome of the Bowls challenge is known.
- (b) If a team or side is disqualified for any reason, the team or side LAST DEFEATED by the disqualified team or side shall take their place.

## 14. ARTIFICIAL DEVICES

Any player using an Artificial Device (Bowling Arm) for the delivery of a bowl must, once a player has commenced using the device in a game, use the device for the remainder of the game. The jack may be rolled at any time either by hand or using the device. A challenge on appeal to an umpire regarding a bowler's arm could occur before trial ends or up to 10 minutes after a game as similar to Laws 52.4.3 and 52.4.4.2. Any player found using a non- approved Bowling Arm will be listed as a defaulting player under Law C2 and will lose the game as per Law C10.

## 15. SCORECARDS

After having completed the front and back of both cards, the cards must be signed and the time recorded immediately the match is completed, by the skips in pairs and by the seconds in fours (DR3.2). This signifies agreement of score and completion of the match. Once the cards are signed the cards shall not be altered and shall be handed to a Bowls Queensland Match Committee member or a representative. If during the game, or at the conclusion before the cards are signed, a mistake is discovered and the opponents cannot agree, then the umpire is called and if no resolution is found, the end where the mistake occurred shall be declared a nil score end (tied end), and the cards adjusted accordingly.

## 16. TEMPORARY MARKINGS (DECALS)

Clubs should provide all players/teams with identical coloured discs (decals) for each side of their bowls, as per Law 51.2.8 and DR 4.7 however if any club does not have decals and wish to use them then Bowls Queensland shall supply them. **However, decals may be required for all finals. When decals are used all bowls in a team event shall be similarly marked.**

## 17. COACHING DURING MATCH

Teams who intend to receive coaching during a match, must inform the Match Committee and the Umpire of the Coach's name as soon as practicable before the start of play but not less than 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the competition and the Coach cannot be changed for each match. Any person who is nominated as a Coach shall strictly adhere to the conditions in Law 44. There shall be only one coach per side. **Please Note:** Any person wishing to coach in this event must hold Bowls Australia coaching qualification and must show it when registering.

**18. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

**All** electronic communication devices located within six (6) metres of the green whilst a match is in progress **SHALL BE SWITCHED OFF**. These include mobile phones, ipads, ipods, pagers, radios etc. Special dispensation may be given to "on call" emergency personnel by the Controlling Body after consultation.

**19. SOCIAL MEDIA**

To assist in ensuring that interactions between players and officials are harmonious the following will be included in the Conditions of Play as permitted by Appendix A.1.4.15. Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.

(a) "No player shall use Social Media to make derogatory comments about Bowls Queensland, any official, the event or any other player for the duration of the competition. Any infringement of this Condition shall render the offender liable to disqualification from the event".

**20. LIGHTS**

Games may be played or completed under lights if required.

**21. SMOKING REGULATIONS**

All players must adhere to the Qld Government Smoking Regulations along with the Smoking Regulations that are applicable in each host club.

See <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/public-health/topics/atod/tobacco-laws/default.asp>

**Please note:** Acting on advice received the forgoing also includes vaping.

**22. EXTREME WEATHER POLICY**

All Bowls Queensland events are conducted under the Bowls Queensland Extreme Weather Policy. All players and officials should make themselves aware of the requirements of this Policy.

**23. PROVISION OF UMPIRES / MARKERS**

(a) In all matches, the provision of non-playing National Accredited Umpires and/or assistants (whose names shall be announced before play commences) is obligatory.

(b) In state finals, the District Umpire's Committee shall oversee.

**24. ATTIRE (MEN & WOMEN)**

(a) Medical certification for Specialised Attire, (including footwear), shall be notified to Bowls Queensland for consideration prior to the commencement of events. A letter may be requested indemnifying Bowls Queensland and the clubs who are hosting events against accidents to or by the person wearing Specialised Attire.

**Please Note: Doctor's certificates are current for the year of issue only and any player who requires such a certificate must get a new certificate every year.**

(b) Attire will be as per Bowls Queensland By-Law 14. All players shall wear their club shirts as per BQ By-laws 14.1(e) and 14.3(a). (Composite side/team Ref:: By-law14.5)

(c) Lower body attire: All players in a Side/team same-coloured attire. i.e. State, District or Club approved uniform. (Composite side/team Ref: By-law14.5)

(d) Attire at this level must carry the BA logo as outlined in the BA national logo policy.

(e) All players and officials playing and officiating at this event shall wear properly enclosed footwear as per By-laws 14.1 (b) and (c).

(f) In this event no player shall wear any national or State uniform or part thereof whether current or obsolete. Any player who contravenes this requirement will be asked to immediately change their attire or be disqualified from the event.

**Note:** Coaches shall be attired as per the requirements for umpires.

**BQ Match Committee**