



**BOWLS**  
**AUSTRALIA**

## **POLICY TITLE: PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT**

**RELATED POLICIES:**

Disciplinary Policy  
Player Agreement  
Anti-Doping Policy  
National Team Selection Policy  
Smoke Free Policy  
Match Fixing Policy

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICERS:**

National Coach  
CEO  
Audit Risk and Policy Committee

**AUTHORITY:**

Bowls Australia Board

**APPROVED:**

March 2018

**REVIEW DATE:**

## **GENERAL**

Players are the public face of bowls in Australia and as such their behaviour is subject to greater scrutiny. Accordingly, players must:

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, sexual orientation, intellectual or physical impairment, cultural background, religion or any other attribute specified under commonwealth or state legislation.
- Observe all reasonable directions of persons appointed by BA to manage the team or squad.
- Adhere to both the Anti-Doping Policy and the Match Fixing Policy advocated by BA.
- Abstain from the use of tobacco and the consumption of alcoholic beverages while in the playing/representative uniform without the permission of the national coach or team management.
- Adhere to BA racial and sexual vilification policy.
- Not do anything which adversely affects or reflects on or discredits the game of bowls, BA, any STA, or any squad, team, competition, tournament, sponsor, official supplier or licensee, including, but not limited to, any illegal act or any act of dishonesty or fraud.
- Be aware of, and maintain an uncompromising adherence to BA's standards, rules, policies, procedures, guidelines and agreements.
- Understand the repercussions if you breach, or are aware of any breaches of this code of conduct.
- Players are entitled to have their privacy respected and this code is not intended to apply to private activities engaged in by a player that are not in the public domain.

## **COMPETITION/TRAINING CAMP**

Players must:

- Play by the rules at all times and ensure that the game of bowls is not brought into disrepute by their actions.
- Behave in a sporting manner at all times to all players, coaches, officials and spectators.
- Not engage in inappropriate and/or physical contact with players or officials at any time.
- Refrain from using obscene, offensive or insulting language and/or making obscene gestures which may insult other players, officials or spectators.
- Not show unnecessary obvious dissension, displeasure or disapproval (by action or verbal abuse) towards an umpire or match official as a consequence of his or her decision or generally. Be courteous and use the correct process when seeking a ruling.

- Not make detrimental statements in respect of the performance of any player, match officials or umpires.
- Not bet, directly or indirectly, on the outcome or on any other aspect of a bowls match or competition in which the BA team participates, or other teams in a tournament or event in which any BA representative player or team is participating, or any other participating player or team in an event where BA is the Controlling Body.
- Not try to achieve a contrived outcome to a match or competition, or otherwise improperly influence the outcome or any other aspect of a match or a competition.
- Not leave the immediate team environment or location without first obtaining approval from the national coach or team management.
- Respect the law and customs of the places they visit.
- “In competition” players/athletes should refrain from drinking alcohol until their competition obligations have been completed

### **DRESS**

Upon selection in the national squad, players will be given an allocation of official squad clothing that they will be required to wear at squad events and competitions. Players must:

- Adhere to the advice that Bowls Australia and team management provide regarding dress for travel, functions and competition as per the current Bowls Australia national squad style guide.
- Care for and respect the uniform and equipment provided to them.

### **TRAINING**

Players must:

- At all times maintain an appropriate relationship with the coach.
- Be honest in their attitude and preparation to training. Work equally hard for themselves and the team.
- Be frank and honest with coaches concerning illness and injury and their ability to train.
- Cooperate with coaches and staff in relation to programs that adequately prepare them for competition.

### **BREACH OF CODE OF CONDUCT**

Players who breach the code of conduct will be subject to a high performance disciplinary committee hearing. The high performance disciplinary committee will consist of at least two of the following:

- National coach or their nominee.
- Team manager.
- Player representative from player leadership group.

The committee will decide the severity of the offence committed by the squad member and apply the appropriate sanction. When imposing a sanction, the committee may, amongst other things, take the following matters into account:

- The seriousness of the breach.
- The extent to which the breach brings sport of bowls, BA, the event or activity, or any other associated parties in to disrepute.
- Whether the offence has been repeated by the player.

Sanctions may include, but not limited to:

- Loss of daily allowance for the duration of the event being undertaken by the player.
- Forfeiture of automatic entry to the next BA event.
- Exclusion from the current tour/camp or sent home.
- Exclusion from the next training camp.

The committee may also choose to refer the offence directly to BA's disciplinary committee.