



POLICY TITLE: BOWLS TESTING POLICY

RELATED POLICIES:	Disciplinary Policy
RESPONSIBLE OFFICERS:	General Manager Bowls Operations National Officiating Director
AUTHORITY:	Chief Executive Officer
APPLICABLE FORMS:	Nil
APPROVED:	August, 2018
NEXT REVIEW DATE:	August, 2020

1. PRINCIPLE

- 1.1. Bowls Australia (BA) believes in a fair and equitable competition and will do everything in its power to ensure that all players participate within the Laws of the Sport of bowls. BA further believes that no bowler should be unjustly penalised for inadvertently using non-conforming bowls.

2. SPECIFICATIONS

- 2.1. In the event of a challenge to a set of bowls, the process for all parties involved (player, umpire, licenced tester, etc) is set out in Law 52 and DR 4.10 of the Laws of the Sport – Crystal Mark Third Edition.
- 2.2. The remainder of this policy should be read in conjunction with these laws and deals with situations or penalties not explained in the laws.

3. REFUSING TO HAND OVER A SET OF BOWLS

- 3.1. If the user or owner refuses to hand over the whole set of bowls to the umpire, in addition to forfeiting the game to their opponent:
 - 3.1.1. The player (or manager in a side game) who challenged the set of bowls will be refunded their deposit.
 - 3.1.2. The user or owner will be suspended from playing for a minimum period of 12 months, and all costs associated with the challenge is paid for by the user or owner to the Controlling Body.

4. BOWLS FAILING A TEST

- 4.1. The user or owner will be suspended from playing in any game until all costs associated with the challenge is paid for by the user or owner to the Controlling Body.
- 4.2. If a set of bowls fails a test as the result of a challenge, the Licensed Tester shall immediately notify, in writing, the National Officiating Director (NOD), who shall inform the Bowls Australia Chief Executive Officer.
- 4.3. If no evidence is presented (or reported by the licensed tester) that the bowls have been deliberately altered, then no further disciplinary action will be taken against the user or owner.

5. ALTERATION TO BIAS

- 5.1. Any player, following investigation, who is proven to have intentionally altered the bias or arranged another person to have intentionally altered the bias of a set of bowls shall be suspended from playing following deliberation by the National Officiating Committee.
- 5.2. The minimum suspension is a period of 12 months.

6. SUBSEQUENT GAMES

6.1. In the event that a challenge to a set of bowls has been lodged and the result of the test is not available in a practicable timeframe prior to subsequent games:

6.1.1. A player may continue with another set of legal bowls until the result is determined.

6.1.2. The Controlling Body can alter any of the conditions of its programme if it decides that this essential to successfully carry out or finish the event.

7. APPEAL AGAINST SUSPENSIONS

7.1. Any player wishing to appeal against any suspensions arising from this policy may do so through the BA Disciplinary Policy.