



MEMORANDUM

TO: State Umpiring Committee Chairs

CC: NOAG, Tony Sherwill – Chief Operating Officer, Neil Dalrymple – Chief Executive Officer, Steven Campbell – Education and Training Coordinator, STA CEOs, STA Operations Managers

FROM: John Roberts – NOAG Chair

DATE: 6 September 2016

RE: **Instantaneous penalties**

Please be advised that the National Officiating Advisory Group (NOAG) has completed its actions as a consequence of the NOAG meeting in May 2016 in regard to instantaneous penalties.

Background: It has been noted that there have been some serious unsportsmanlike behaviours and serious breaches of the Laws of the Sport occurring occasionally during games of bowls. Players need to understand that umpires can enforce instantaneous penalties in accordance with this policy.

Action: NOAG asks that each State disseminates the following policy around instantaneous penalties so that this policy can be shared amongst all officials, bowlers and Bowling clubs in all States and Territories of Australia. NOAG notes 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 affiliated members should undertake to conduct themselves in a polite and sportsmanlike manner when participating in any bowls events anywhere in Australia.

As from (September 6 2016)

INSTANTANEOUS PENALTIES:

- If the Umpire, on appeal by the Controlling Body, a Side Manager, a Skip or an Opponent, or by observation, in their opinion decides that a breach of any Law or Rule or any action by a Player/s, such as:
- acting in an abusive, threatening or intimidating manner towards any person,
- using obscene, offensive, abusive, threatening or intimidating language towards any person,

- threatening any person with physical violence or assault,
- assaulting any person,
- acting in a manner likely to bring the sport of bowls into disrepute
- acting in a manner likely to bring Bowls Australia into disrepute.

has taken place, then after consultation with the controlling body, (in their absence the team / side managers) 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 in singles or opposing Team in a Team game or team in a side game.
- Upon a second such offence by the same Player in the same game, the Umpire shall award the game to the Opponent/s according to Laws of the Sport (3rd Edition) C2 and C10.

Should this penalty be applied, no replacement or substitute Player will be allowed for his/her Team.

In a Team game the defaulting Team will forfeit the game to their Opponent.

In a Side game BA Domestic Regulations 2.5.1.1, 2.5.1.2 and 2.5.1.3 will apply.

A replacement player is not permitted for a singles player. BA Domestic Regulation 2.4.6.

Serious offences may also be subject to police action. Consultation should occur between the venue managers/controlling body and umpire/s before such action is undertaken.

The umpire must forward a written detailed report about any incident involving an instantaneous penalty to the respective Controlling Body within seven (7) days of the incident.

John Roberts

Chair - NOAG