



CONDITIONS OF PLAY

2023 Australian Champion of Champions

Updated: July 2023

Distributed by: Bowls Australia

Controlling body: Bowls Australia Ltd.

Event: **2023 Australian Champion of Champions**

Dates: Friday, October 6 - Saturday, October 7, 2023
Practice Day, Thursday, October 5, 2023

Venue: **Sorrento Bowls Club**

1. ENTRY CONDITIONS

1.1. Affiliation

All players must be an affiliated bowler with a State or Territory Association that is affiliated to Bowls Australia as defined in the Bowls Australia Constitution or affiliated to an international body that is a member of World Bowls.

1.2. Eligibility

As a condition of entry to compete in this event, all competitors must:

- 1.2.1 Not be currently under disqualification or suspension by their STA or their national authority.
- 1.2.2 Comply with all applicable 'Laws of the Sport of Bowls and Domestic Regulations for Australia, Crystal Mark 4th edition (Laws of the Sport of Bowls) April 2023, including any amendments and Bowls Australia Policies.

- 1.2.3 Be a title holder of their respective STA's 'State Champion of Champions' singles title as of August 2023.

2. EVENT STRUCTURE

2.1. Qualifying

- 2.1.1 Qualifying competitions will be held in each STA and be run in accordance with BA's 'Affiliation and Eligibility to Play' policy.
- 2.1.2 All qualifiers for this event must be submitted to BA by **Friday, August 19, 2023.**

2.2. Format

2.2.1 Singles only:

- 2.2.1.1 Four bowls, 21 shots up. Shots in excess of 21 will not count;
- 2.2.1.2 There will be **no time limit** on any matches.
- 2.2.1.3 All dead ends must be replayed.

- 2.2.2 The competition will be played as full sectional round robin, with each STA's representative playing each other once (a total of seven rounds).

2.3. Alterations to the format and length of games

- 2.3.1 The Controlling Body reserves the right to alter the format, times of play and greens to suit local unforeseen circumstances, giving as much notice as practical.
- 2.3.2 Where a program is interrupted or cannot be completed due to inclement weather or local conditions, the Jury of Appeal may amend the format and length of games to achieve a result or postpone the event where an outcome cannot be achieved.
- 2.3.3 Artificial light - The game shall proceed under artificial lights, if necessary, to achieve a result. The controlling body will nominate the number of ends required by each rink depending on the conditions. Games are to be completed by 9:30pm.

2.4. Trial Ends

One trial end in each direction will be allowed for all games in accordance with Law 5.1. In trial ends players can use any combination of bowls taken from different sets so long as all bowls carry a registered World Bowls stamp of either the current year or a future year.

2.5. Start of the game

A signal will be given at the start of each game. Any player arriving after the starting time shall lose the right to play trial ends. Any player arriving at the green more than 15 minutes after the official starting time (as determined by the marker and/or umpire) shall forfeit the game and the points for that game.

2.6. Arrangement for practice

Players will be able to practice on the day before the event. A practice schedule will be developed and sent to all players.

Any additional practices will be in accordance to Law 4 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

3. REPLACEMENT AND SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS

- 3.1.** Replacement or substitute players are not permitted at this event. Should the STA champion decline their position or withdraw from the event prior to its commencement, a bye will occur in lieu of that player.
- 3.2.** If a player cannot begin a match or cannot complete a match once the competition has begun, they will forfeit the match or matches and the result will be determined as per section 6.2.

4. RESTRICTING THE MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS DURING PLAY

4.1. Moving to the head

After delivering their first bowl, players will only be allowed to walk up to the head under the following circumstances.

- The opponents: after delivery of their third and fourth bowls.

In exceptional and limited circumstances, the player can ask the marker to walk up to the head earlier than described above. If a player does not meet these terms, law 13 will apply.

5. DELAYING PLAY

If the umpire, either by their own observation or on appeal from the opposition player, decides that a player is deliberately delaying the delivery of a player's bowl they will proceed as follows:

- 5.1.** On the first occasion, the umpire will warn the player.
- 5.2.** If the player commits the same offence a second time the end will be regarded as complete and the opponent of the offender will score as many shots as there are bowls in use by such opponent.
- 5.3.** If the same player offends a third time the game will be forfeited to the opponent.

6. SCORING

6.1. Game Points

6.1.1 Game points will be distributed as follows:

- 6.1.1.1 Three game points for a win;
- 6.1.1.2 One game point for a tie or no result;
- 6.1.1.3 No game points for a loss.

6.1.2 In the event of a bye, the player receiving the bye will receive no game points and a net shot margin of zero.

6.2. Forfeits

6.2.1 In the event of a forfeit, the following distribution of game points and shots will apply:

- 6.2.1.1 The non-offending player will be awarded three game points and a net total of shots that is equal to the average net total of shots scored by the winners of all other games played in the same round.
- 6.2.1.2 The offending player (forfeiting player) will receive zero points, and the average negative net shot margin scored from all other games played in the same round.

7. DETERMINATION OF WINNERS

7.1. Determination of Champion

The player who is ranked at the top of the ladder (as per section 7.2) following the completion of all seven rounds will be declared the champion.

7.2. Determination of Ladder Rankings

Ladder rankings will be decided as follows:

- 7.2.1 Players with the most **game points** will be ranked higher;
- 7.2.2 If game points are equal, the player with the **highest net total shots** (total shots for minus total shots against) will be ranked higher;
- 7.2.3 If game points and net total shots are equal, the total shots for will be divided by the total shots against to determine a shots percentage. The player with the higher **shots percentage** will be ranked higher;
- 7.2.4 If game points, net total shots and shots percentage are all equal, the player that won the game between the players that are equal will be ranked higher.

8. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

The champion, runner up and third place of both the Men's and Women's events will both receive medals. The presentation ceremony for both men and women will be held following the conclusion of the final match.

9. ATTIRE

As per the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, including Domestic Regulation 5.

9.1. Footwear

Footwear must adhere to Appendix A.2. Attire must adhere to Appendix A.3 and the BA logo policy. This policy is available on the Bowls Australia web site which can be found [here](#).

9.2. Uniform

9.2.1 Players must wear the uniform of the club from which they qualified as the champion of champions. All uniforms must comply with the [NMP Policy](#).

9.2.2 Failure to adhere to the BA Logo Policy will result in the offending player being given a verbal warning by the convening match umpire which will be lodged and recorded with the tournament director. The offending player will then be provided up until the forfeit time of their subsequent game to comply with the BA Logo Policy. Failure to comply by this deadline will result in the offending player being disqualified and the game forfeited to their opponent.

10. EQUIPMENT

10.1. Stamp on Bowls

All bowls used during the event must carry a registered World Bowls stamp of either the current year or of a future year. Random checking of bowls may occur prior to the commencement of games. Bowls Australia's bowls testing policy is available on the Bowls Australia website. Players requiring bowls testing shall be liable for the cost of the test.

10.2. Marking Touchers

In all Bowls Australia events, as per the Laws of the Sport, only chalk can be used to mark touchers. Spray chalk is the preferred method of marking at Bowls Australia's events.

10.3. Bowls Discs

Players may use bowls discs representing the club from which they qualified for this event. Bowls discs must not obscure the World Bowls stamp. Officials have the right to instruct players to replace bowls discs due to discoloration, damage, colour clashes or inappropriate placement.

11. PROHIBITIONS

11.1. Anti-Doping

The National Integrity Framework - [Bowls Australia's Improper Use of Drugs and Medicine Policy](#) shall apply throughout the event.

ISA officials may carry out prohibited substance testing at the event. Any player identified by ISA officials must undergo testing as requested.

11.2. Alcohol

The consumption of alcohol by players is prohibited during play. Bowls Australia's policy can be found [here](#)

11.3. Smoking

Bowls Australia's Smoke Free Policy will be enforced during all days of the event, inclusive of the official practice day. Bowls Australia's policy can be found [here](#)

11.4. Match-Fixing

Bowls Australia's [Match Fixing Policy](#) shall apply throughout the event. All of those directly involved with the event, including but not limited to players, officials and event staff, must comply with this policy, which can be found on the Bowls Australia website.

12. JURY OF APPEAL

A jury of appeal shall be appointed for the purpose of deciding upon any matters not provided in the Conditions of Play, for dealing with any appeals from decisions made by umpires and/or event staff or volunteers, and generally for the purpose of exercising overall authority on behalf of Bowls Australia.

Any appeal against a decision made by an official relating to a Law, Domestic Regulation or Condition of Play may be referred to the Tournament Director in the first instance before being referred to the Jury of Appeal.

In the event of an appeal during the playing of the event, such appeals shall be made in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, and shall be directed to a Jury of Appeal which shall consist of:

- ☐ BA President or nominee;
- ☐ BA CEO or nominee;
- ☐ Tournament Director or nominee;
- ☐ Event Manager or nominee.

It is noted that, if any of the above members is directly involved in the matter, they shall not sit as a member of the Jury of Appeal and an appropriately skilled nominee be appointed instead.

13. PRIZE MONEY

13.1. Total Prize Money

There is no prize money allocated to this event.

13.2. Qualification for the World Champion of Champions

The champions of both the men's and women's events will earn the right to represent Australia at the World Champion of Champions Singles event in 2023. Should the champion of either discipline be ineligible to represent Australia as per the BA Selection Policy, the next best placed finisher eligible for selection will progress as the Australian representative.

14. REGULATIONS AND POLICIES

14.1. Photography

Bowls Australia reserves the right to use any photographs taken during this event for further promotional requirements.

14.2. Laws of the Sport of Bowls

All other Laws, Regulations & Policies other than stated above shall conform to the Laws of the Sport of Bowls and Domestic Regulations for Australia, Crystal Mark 3rd edition, Version 3.1 as published in May 2019.

14.3. Mobile Devices

The use of mobile phones and other electronic/communication devices on the green and surrounds during play is not permitted. Refer to <http://www.bowls.com.au/About-BA/Documents/Constitution-Policies>.

14.4. COVID-19 Guidelines

As a requirement of all Bowls Australia National events, players, coaches, officials and spectators are expected to follow the COVID guidelines stipulated by the Bowls Australia, State and Territory Organisations, Host Venues and all State and Federal Government requirements.

14.5. Please note all Bowls Australia policies will be enforced during this event.

15. CONTACT INFORMATION

For any event enquiries, please contact Bowls Australia's Events and Competition Manager Andrew or Events and Competitions Coordinator Paul Holtschke directly:

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