



2024 AUSTRALIAN INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

CONDITIONS OF PLAY

2024 Australian Indoor Championships

Updated: 9/07/2024

Distributed by: Bowls Australia

Controlling body:	<i>STA Qualifying:</i> Host STA in conjunction with Bowls Australia <i>Indoor Championships:</i> Bowls Australia
Event:	Australian Indoor Championships
Dates:	<i>STA Qualifying:</i> Various dates, dependent on STA <i>Indoor Championships:</i> Monday, August 12 -15, 2024
Venue:	<i>STA Qualifying:</i> Various, dependent on the STA <i>2024 Indoor Championships:</i> Club Tweed Cnr Wharf & Florence Streets, Tweed Heads NSW 2485

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, CM4, April 2023), and policies of Bowls Australia, including the Anti-Doping Code.

1.2.3 For the main draw, must have qualified for the event by either:

1.2.3.1 Qualifying through an official STA qualifying event;

1.2.3.2 Received a direct entry into the event from BA;

1.2.3.3 Received a wildcard entry into the event from BA.

1.3. Qualifying Events

1.3.1 Each STA will receive a pre-determined number of qualifying spots each year for the main draw, determined by each STAs proportion of total entrants for the previous years' qualifying events.

1.3.2 STAs may set their own entry conditions for qualifying events, however, must include the conditions listed under sections 1.1 and 1.2.

1.3.3 Players can attempt to qualify for the main draw in more than one state.

2. EVENT STRUCTURE

2.1. Qualifying Competition Format

2.1.1 The format of competition will be either knockout or sectional play with post sectional knockout rounds if required. The format of play will be determined by the host Controlling Body based on the number of entries received in each discipline.

2.1.2 The Controlling Body of the qualifying event will determine and advise BA of all final qualifiers for the main draw.

2.1.3 All qualifying matches must be conducted under the format of play described in section 2.2.2 and 2.2.3.

2.2. Australian Indoor Championships Format

2.2.1 The event will be played in a knockout format with 32 qualifiers in both the Men's and Women's events.

2.2.2 The event will be played in sets play format as outlined in law 56 of the laws of the sport:

2.2.2.1 Singles: Four bowls, 2 sets of nine ends with a three end tie-breaker played if required.

2.2.3 Time limits will not apply to any matches.

2.3. Seeding of Players

2.3.1 Eight (8) players within both the Men's and Women's draw will be seeded and will be placed in the draw accordingly. Seedings will be determined as follows:

2.3.1.1 The defending champion will be seeded first.

2.3.1.2 The current Australian Open Singles champion will be seeded second.

2.3.1.3 The remaining seeds (three to eight) will be given to the top six ranked qualifiers under the Bowls Australia Player Ranking System at the conclusion of the previous ranking year (in order of rank).

2.3.1.4. Wildcard entries are not eligible for seeding.

2.4. Re-spotting the Jack

If a jack in motion passes completely outside the boundaries of the rink of play, comes to rest in any hollow in the face of the bank or comes to rest at a distance of less than 18 metres as measured in a straight line, from the centre of the mat line to the nearest point of the jack, the end must not be declared dead.

Instead the jack will be re-spotted in accordance with Law 56.5.3 (that is, with the nearest point of the jack to the mat line at a spot on the rink which is 2 metres from the front ditch and on the centre line) or as close as possible as described in law 56.5.4 and play should continue.

2.5. Tie Breaker (law 56.2)

If a game is tied after the two sets have been completed (each player having won one set or both sets having been drawn), a tiebreaker consisting of three ends must be played to decide the winner.

2.5.1 The winner of the tie-breaker will be the player with the highest number of shots when the third end is completed.

2.5.2 There must be no further play in the tie-breaker if, at any point, it becomes impossible for one player to draw or win the tie-breaker, given the number of ends left.

2.5.3 If the shot scores are tied after the third end of the tie-breaker, the players must play a fourth tie-breaker end to decide the winner.

2.5.4 If the fourth end of a tie-breaker is a tied end, the players will play more tie-breaker ends until a winner is found.

2.6. First to play (law 56.4)

2.6.1 First set: the players (opponents in Singles) must toss a coin and the winner of the toss has the options described in law 5.2.2.

2.6.2 Second set: the winner of the first set must place the mat, then deliver the jack and the first bowl. If the first set is a draw, the winner of the last scoring end in that set must place the mat, then deliver the jack and the first bowl.

2.6.3 First, fourth and any further ends of a tie-breaker: the players (opponents in Singles) must toss a coin and the winner of the toss has the options described in law 5.2.2.

2.6.4 In all ends after the first in each set (including tie-breaker ends), the winner of the previous scoring end must place the mat, then deliver the jack and the first bowl. If, however, the first end of the first set or the first end of a tie-breaker is a tied end, the first to play in that end must also play first in the second end of the first set or the second end of the tie-breaker.

2.7. Choosing the rinks of play

2.7.1 Bowls Australia reserves the right to allocate the same rink to a player, more than once on the same day (DR 1.1.3).

2.8. Alterations to the format and length of games

2.8.1 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.

2.8.2 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.

2.9. Trial Ends

2.9.1 One trial end in each direction will be allowed for all games in accordance with Law 5.1.

2.9.2 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.

2.10. Start of the game

2.10.1 A signal will be given for the starting time of each session. Any player arriving after the starting time shall lose the right to play trial ends.

2.10.2 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.

2.11. Arrangement for practice

2.11.1 Players will be permitted on the indoor green the day prior to the commencement of competition.

2.11.2 Practice rinks should be booked by players through the host club in one hour blocks.

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

3. REPLACEMENT AND SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS

3.1. Replacements

- 3.1.1 Should a qualifier for the event under section 1.2.3 withdraw from the event prior to the draw being published, they will in the first instance be replaced with the next best qualifier from the same qualifying event.
- 3.1.1.1 If the next best qualifier from the same qualifying event does not exist or cannot be determined, the withdrawn qualifier will be replaced by a wildcard as determined by the Controlling Body (as per section 1.2.3.3).
- 3.1.1.2 Withdrawals must be made in writing directly to Bowls Australia, and will be deemed as final once the withdrawal is confirmed.
- 3.1.2 Should a qualifier for the event under section 1.2.3 withdraw from the event after the draw is published publicly, they will not be replaced in the draw and any matches in which the player is fixtured will be deemed as byes.

3.2. Substitutes

- 3.2.1 Substitute players are not permitted.

4. RESTRICTING THE MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS DURING PLAY

4.1. Moving to the head

- 4.1.1 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.
- 4.1.2 In exceptional and limited circumstances, the player can ask the marker to walk up to the head earlier than described above.
- 4.1.3 If a player does not meet these terms, Law 13 will apply.

5. DELAYING PLAY

- 5.1 If the umpire, either by their own observation or on appeal from one of the players, decides that a player is deliberately delaying the delivery of a player's bowl they will proceed as follows:
- 5.1.1 On the first occasion, the umpire will warn the player.
- 5.1.2 If the same 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.
- 5.1.3 If the same player offends a third time the game will be forfeited to the opponent.

6. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

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

7. ATTIRE

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

7.1. Footwear

7.1.1 Footwear must adhere to Appendix A.2. Laws of the Sport of Bowls and Domestic Regulations for Australia (Crystal Mark 4th Edition, CM4, April 2023) and be on the Bowls Australia list of approved footwear.

7.2. Attire - Uniform

7.2.1 Players **must** wear their **club uniform** for all matches up until the semi-final. Attire must adhere to Appendix A.3 Laws of the Sport of Bowls and Domestic Regulations for Australia (Crystal Mark 4th Edition, CM4 April 2023) and the BA 'NMP Logo policy'. This policy is available on the Bowls Australia web site www.bowlsaustralia.com.au

7.2.2 It is compulsory for players to wear any sponsorship materials provided by BA, and for TV matches the uniforms supplied by Bowls Australia. **There will be no exceptions to this rule.** This includes any small microphones during the TV finals. Uniforms will be supplied for the semi-finals onwards. Players who reach the semi-final round should report to the tournament office following the conclusion of their quarter-final to receive their uniform.

7.2.3 Failure to adhere to the BA 'NMP 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.

8. EQUIPMENT

8.1. Stamp on Bowls

8.1.1 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.

8.1.2 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.

8.2. 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.

8.3. Bowls Stickers

- 8.3.1 Players are required to use the bowls stickers provided by Bowls Australia. Players may be required to change their stickers between matches.
- 8.3.2 Any bowls discs that are used on bowls must not obscure the Serial Number or the World Bowls stamp.
- 8.3.3 Officials have the right to instruct players to remove, replace or apply alternate bowls stickers due to discolouration, damage, inappropriate placement or colour clashes.

9. NATIONAL INTEGRITY

Bowls Australia adopted Sports Integrity Australia's (SIA) National Integrity Framework which takes a proactive approach to mitigate integrity threats to sports and provide a safe, fair, and healthy environment for participants at all levels of Bowls. The National Integrity Framework is a set of rules that all members of our sport need to follow when it comes to their behaviour and conduct in Bowls. As a member of Bowls Australia, you are agreeing to abide by all by-laws and policies as adopted by Bowls Australia including the National Integrity Framework Policies. They can be found on our website.

[National Integrity Framework - Bowls Australia.](#)

[Constitution and Policies - Bowls Australia](#)

9.1. Anti-Doping

9.1.1 Bowls Australia's [National Integrity Framework](#) shall apply throughout the event.

9.1.2 Sport Integrity Australia (SIA) officials may carry out prohibited substance testing at the event. Any player identified by SIA officials must undergo testing as requested.

9.2. Alcohol and Smoking Policy

Bowls Australia's [Smoke Free and Alcohol Policy](#) will be enforced during all days of the event, including the official practice day.

9.3. Match-Fixing

Bowls Australia's [National Integrity Framework](#) 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.

9.4. Integrity Education Requirements

For Bowls Australia to comply with the National Integrity Framework, it is a requirement that all Players must complete the relevant Integrity Education Courses.

10. JURY OF APPEAL

10.1 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.

10.2 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.

10.3 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;
- Events & Competition 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.

11. PRIZE MONEY

11.1. Total Prize Money

Total prize money for the event is \$24,000. \$12,000 for both men's and women's competitions.

11.2. Disqualifications or Forfeits

Any player that is disqualified or forfeits a prize money round, is ineligible to receive any prize money from the event. Exceptional circumstances may only be applied to forfeited matches. Players seeking an exception to this rule must apply in writing to the Jury of Appeal stating the reason for their forfeit and why prize money should still be allocated within **14 days** of the conclusion of the event.

11.3. Distribution of Prize Money

- 11.3.1 All prize money won at the event will be distributed directly to each recipient as per the breakdown.
- 11.3.2 All prize money will be distributed via EFT **following the event**, and each prize money recipient must complete the appropriate paperwork before the payment is approved. **No prize money will be given out at the event.** Players will be required to provide banking details for this payment.
- 11.3.3 All prize money distributions will be subject to any and all applicable legislation or charges regarding to tax, exchange rate and other applicable charges, including regulations for non-Australian residents for tax purposes.
- 11.3.4 Bowls Australia will endeavour to pay out all prize money within **two weeks** of the conclusion of the event, although participants should be aware that this may vary in certain circumstances.

11.4 Financial Support to Attend the World Indoor Championships

Bowls Australia and its High-Performance department are invested in supporting, where possible, Bowls Australia members through national selection, and representative and qualifying pathways, including contracted and/or qualifying athletes.

Following conditions apply:

1. A one off \$1000 per athlete contribution for international expenses (including but not limited to travel/accommodation) for winners of the Australian Indoor Championships, where the qualified World Bowls Indoor Championships events are to be staged overseas in another Member Nation.
2. A one off \$500 per athlete contribution for domestic expenses (including but not limited to travel/accommodation) for winners of the Australian Indoor Championships, where the qualified World Bowls Indoor Championships events are to be staged in Australia.
3. Upper body Uniform will be provided to athletes, athlete to provide their own black shorts/skort/pants.
4. All non-contracted (BA High Performance squad athletes) must sign an 'Athlete Agreement' to receive the aforementioned international expenses or domestic expenses contribution (includes behaviours and commitment to participate). For the avoidance of doubt, athletes shall be responsible for coordinating their own travel

and accommodation logistics for the qualified World Bowls Indoor Championships event.

12. OTHER LAWS, REGULATIONS AND POLICIES

12.1. Photography

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

12.2. 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 4th Edition, CM4, April 2023), including any amendments.

12.3 Mobile Devices

Personal electronic and communication devices will not be used at any point during a match
Link: https://www.bowls.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Personal-Electronic-Devices_Approved-2020-1.pdf , except with the approval of the Controlling Body.

12.4 BA Policies

All Bowls Australia policies will be enforced during this event. To access these, visit the BA website: <https://www.bowls.com.au/about-ba/key-documents/constitution-and-policies/>

13. CONTACT INFORMATION

Event enquiries, please contact Bowls Australia

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