



**2024  
AUSTRALIAN UNDER-18  
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**CONDITIONS OF PLAY**

**2024 Australian Under 18 Championships**

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**Controlling body:** Bowls Australia Ltd.

**Event:** **2024 Australian Under 18 Championships**

**Dates:** October 9 - October 10, 2024

**Club:** Club Tweed, New South Wales

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## **1. ENTRY CONDITIONS**

### **1.1. Eligibility**

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

- 1.1.1 Be registered as a member of an affiliated club with a State or Territory Association (STA) that is affiliated to Bowls Australia.
- 1.1.2 Not be currently under disqualification or suspension by their state/territory association or their national authority.
- 1.1.3 Satisfy the eligibility criteria of the member state/territory association.
- 1.1.4 Comply with all applicable rules and regulations of Bowls Australia and the Code of Conduct for the event.
- 1.1.5 Comply with all applicable "Laws of the Sport of Bowls and Domestic Regulations for Australia, Crystal Mark 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, April 2023, including Bowls Australia Policies.
- 1.1.6 Players must be under 18 years of age as at October 9, 2024.

All coaches at the event must:

- 1.1.7 Hold a valid coaching accreditation with Bowls Australia under the NCAS accreditation system and a valid 'Working with Children's' accreditation (or similar), for the relevant state.

## **1.2. Side and Team Selection**

- 1.2.1 State or Territory Associations will select the below delegation to attend the Australian Under 18 Championships, giving a total of 10 players and a total of 2 coaches and/or team managers. All players and coaches must comply with Section 1.1.
  - 1.2.1.1 1 side of 5 male players;
  - 1.2.1.2 1 side of 5 female players;
  - 1.2.1.3 2 coaches and/or team managers with at least one allocated to the boys and girls sides, although both officials may act on behalf of both the boys and girls sides if preferred.

## **2. EVENT STRUCTURE**

### **2.1. Side and Team Composition**

- 2.1.1 The event shall be played annually between sides from each state and territory association.
- 2.1.2 Player names and team combinations must be submitted to Bowls Australia by **Friday, August 16, 2024**, using the official team nomination form. All players must meet the eligibility criteria under Section 1.1.
- 2.1.3 Should a STA be unable to field a full side (5 boys and/or 5 girls) from registered members within the STA, the STA has the following options to complete the makeup of their side:
  - 2.1.3.1 Select players from their **national pathways** partner (after that state has selected their teams) or;
  - 2.1.3.2 Select players from the host state (after that state has selected their teams).
- 2.1.4 The following events will be played concurrently, and therefore players cannot be selected for both events:
  - 2.1.4.1 Singles and Fours;
  - 2.1.4.2 Pairs and Triples.
- 2.1.5 The order of play within each team in the pairs, triples and fours may be altered prior to the commencement of play. Any changes to the order of play must be noted on the relevant scorecard..

2.1.6 The composition of each team **must not** be amended following the submission of teams by a STA without the approval of the Controlling Body. For clarity, players must compete in the same events for the duration of the competition.

2.1.6.1 If a player or players are substituted under Section 3, they must only return to play with their original team.

2.1.7 Where a STA is unable to send a full side, the following will apply:

2.1.7.1 The host state will be offered the option to field a second team in the relevant event or events (any additional teams fielded by the host state **will not** contribute to the side awards under Section 8 but will be eligible to win medals in individual events).

2.1.7.2 If the host state is unable or unwilling to field a second team, the withdrawn teams will be replaced by byes.

## 2.2. Draw

2.2.1 Each event will be conducted with two sections of four teams each, drawn at random as per Section 2.2.2. The composition of sections for each event is the same.

2.2.2 The draw is conducted by Bowls Australia when preparation begins to deliver the Under 18 Championship each year.

2.2.3 STAs will be allocated the number at which they are drawn. This will correspond to the draw formula below.

	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3
Pool 1	1v4	4v3	1v3
	3v2	2v1	4v2
Pool 2	5v8	8v7	5v7
	7v6	6v5	8v6

## 2.3. Format of Play

2.3.1 Each player can compete in a maximum of two events and must conform to Section 2.1.4.

2.3.2 The Format of Play for each event is as follows:

Singles: Four bowls per player, 21 shots up, (shots scored in excess of 21 shots shall not count)

Pairs: Three bowls per player, 18 ends

Triples: Two bowls per player, 18 ends

Fours: Two bowls per player, 15 ends

- 2.3.3 A time limit of two hours and fifteen minutes (not including trial ends) will apply to all matches for all events including finals.

## **2.4. Respotting the Jack**

- 2.4.1 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 rebounds to a distance of less than 18 metres from the mat line, the end should not be declared dead. Instead, the jack should be placed with the nearest point of the jack to the mat line at a spot on the rink which is two metres from the front ditch and on the centre line, and play should continue.
- 2.4.2 If the spot mentioned in paragraph 2.4.1 is partly or completely covered by a bowl, the jack should be placed as close as possible to the covered spot, in line with that spot and the corresponding spot at the opposite end of the rink, without touching a bowl.
- 2.4.3 The spot(s) mentioned in paragraph 2.4.1 should be marked using chalk or some other suitable method.

## **2.5. Procedure for applying time limits**

- 2.5.1 *Trial Ends:* An announcement will be made over the venue's public address (PA) system (or equivalent) for the commencement of trial ends 15 minutes before the scheduled match start time.
- 2.5.2 *Start of Play:* Play will commence with the sound of a horn or bell or an announcement signalling the start time over the venue's PA system. Players or teams who finish trial ends early must wait for this announcement before commencing their match.
- 2.5.3 *End of Play:* When the time limit is reached, a horn, bell or announcement over the venue's PA system will signal the end of play. If an end is in progress when the time limit is reached, this end must be completed. (The start of an end is determined by the delivery of the jack by the first player to play in that end).
- 2.5.3.1 The Controlling Body may (but is not obliged to), provide a warning that the time is due to expire within a given period. This should be applied consistently throughout the event.
- 2.5.4 Should a venue be unable to use their PA system for any reason, all matches in play should be made aware of the announcements in Sections 2.5.1, 2.5.2 and 2.5.3 by the best available method as soon as practically possible.

## **2.6. Incomplete Matches**

- 2.6.1 Should a match not be completed as per the Laws of the Sport or the Format of Play stipulated under sections 2.3 then the score stands as at the completion of the end in play, with the below clauses.

- 2.6.1.1 *Sectional matches*: If scores are level, the match shall be declared a tie, with game points awarded as per section 6.1.2.
- 2.6.1.2 *Finals matches*: In the event that the scores are tied, one additional end will be played to determine a winner (as per Law 28).

## **2.7. Alterations to the format and length of games**

- 2.7.1 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.
- 2.7.2 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.
- 2.7.3 The game shall proceed under artificial lights, if necessary, to achieve a result. The Controlling Body will nominate the number of ends required to complete a game, depending on the conditions. Games must be completed by 9:30pm.

## **2.8. 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.

## **2.9. Arrangement for practice**

Teams will be permitted to practise at the host club the day prior to the commencement of the Championships. Rinks and times will be allocated by Bowls Australia and circulated to STAs prior to the team's arrival.

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. Replacement and Substitute Players**

- 3.1.1 Following the commencement of the first match in an event, **replacement or substitute players** for constituted players will only be permitted due to illness, injury or other extreme personal issues to the constituted player(s).
- 3.1.2 Any replacement or substitute player must be approved by the Tournament Director or their nominee before playing in a match and must not have already played in the event as a constituted player.
- 3.1.3 Any replacement or substitute player must meet all conditions as listed under Domestic Regulation 2.4 and 2.5.
- 3.1.4 Replacement and substitute players must be utilised in the following manner:

- 3.1.4.1 In the first instance, the replacement or substitute player should be an eligible player affiliated with the relevant STA;
  - 3.1.4.2 If there are no eligible players available, the STA may call upon an eligible player from the host state. This incoming player must meet the eligibility criteria under section 1.1.
  - 3.1.4.3 If no replacement or substitute player can be found for a team game, the match must be forfeited to the opponent.
- 3.1.5 Replacement players, but not substitute players, may be utilised in the Singles event as per section 3.1.4. However, if a player has begun playing in a Singles match but cannot complete their match, the match will be forfeited, and points allocated as per Section 6.
- 3.1.6 Medals will only be awarded to those players participating in the final game of an event.

## 4. RESTRICTING THE MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS DURING PLAY

### 4.1. Starting each end

Prior to the start of each end, the following players will take their position at the mat-end of the green:

- *Pairs*: the leads;
- *Triples*: the leads and seconds;
- *Fours*: the leads, seconds and the thirds.

On changeovers, the skips (in pairs and fours) will move to the mat end together.

### 4.2. Moving to the head

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

#### 4.2.1 Singles:

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

#### 4.2.2 Pairs:

- 4.2.2.1 *The leads*: after the delivery of their third bowl;
- 4.2.2.2 *The skips*: after the delivery of their second and third bowls.

#### 4.2.3 Triples:

- 4.2.3.1 *The leads and seconds*: after the delivery of their second bowl;
- 4.2.3.2 *The skips*: after the delivery of each of their bowls.

#### 4.2.4 Fours:

- 4.2.4.1 *The leads and seconds*: after the second player in their team has delivered their second bowl;
- 4.2.4.2 *The thirds*: after the delivery of their second bowl;
- 4.2.4.3 *The skips*: after the delivery of each of their bowls.

### 4.3. Exceptional Circumstances

In exceptional and limited circumstances, singles player can ask the marker for permission to walk to the head and a skip can ask that a player walks up to the head earlier than described above. If a player does not meet the terms of this law, law 13 will apply.

## 5. DELAYING PLAY

If the umpire by their own observation or on appeal from the opposing skip or opponent in singles decides a player is deliberately delaying the delivery of their bowl, or a skip is acting or issuing instructions designed to delay play they will proceed as follows:

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

## 6. SCORING

### 6.1. Game points

Game points will be allocated in sectional play as follows:

- 6.1.1 Three points for a win;
- 6.1.2 One point for a tie or no result
- 6.1.3 Three points for a win by forfeit, and the average positive shot margin from the other matches in that section in the same round.
- 6.1.4 No points for a loss by forfeit, and the average negative shot margin from the other matches in that section in the same round.

### 6.2. Scorecards

- 6.2.1 Final scorecards must be checked and signed by the players of both teams, responsible for keeping the scorecards, and for Singles both players and the marker. The cards must then be signed by the umpire in charge of that match prior to submission to the tournament office.
- 6.2.2 Errors in the result of any scorecard that has been signed by the participating players/teams **will not** be amended due to the impact on other results and sectional qualifiers. **All signed scorecards will be taken as final.**

## 7. DETERMINATION OF WINNERS

### 7.1. Section Rankings

The player/team rankings in each section will be determined as follows:

- 7.1.1 The players/teams in each section will be ranked by the highest number of **game points** scored in each event.
- 7.1.2 If game points are equal, then the players/teams with the **highest net total shots** (total shots for minus the total shots against) will be ranked higher.
- 7.1.3 If points and net total shots are equal, the total shots for will be divided by the total shots against. The players/teams with the **highest percentage** will be ranked higher (Law 27.4).
- 7.1.4 If game points, net total shots and shots percentage are all equal, the player/team who won the match against the player/team who is otherwise ranked equally will be ranked higher.

### 7.2. Finals

Once sectional play has concluded, finals in each event will be conducted as follows:

- 7.2.1 Section winners will play off for first and second place.
- 7.2.2 Teams finishing second in their section will play off for third and fourth position.

## 8. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

### 8.1. Trophies

8.1.1 There are three side awards presented at this event:

- 8.1.1.1 Australian Under-18 Championships Male State Champion Side;
- 8.1.1.2 Australian Under-18 Championships Female State Champions Side;
- 8.1.1.3 Robert Middleton Australian Under-18 Championships Overall Champion Side.

### 8.2. Scoring for side awards

- 8.2.1 The winner of the male and female championship side trophies will be determined by the sum of points awarded to each state for each event in that gender.
- 8.2.2 The overall championship trophy will be determined by the sum of both male and female points awarded to each state for each event.
- 8.2.3 These points will be awarded as follows:
  - 8.2.3.1 The gold medallist in each event will be awarded eleven (11) points;
  - 8.2.3.2 The silver medallist in each event will be awarded nine (9) points;
  - 8.2.3.3 The bronze medallist in each event will be awarded seven (7) points;
  - 8.2.3.4 Fourth place in each event will be awarded five (5) points;



- 8.2.3.5 Fifth place in each event will be awarded four (4) points;
- 8.2.3.6 Sixth place in each event will be awarded three (3) points;
- 8.2.3.7 Seventh place in each event will be awarded two (2) points;
- 8.2.3.8 Eighth place in each event will be awarded one (1) point.

Please note places 5-8 will be determined based off their sectional results for each discipline. No playoffs for places 5 - 8 will occur in the championships.

### **8.3. Ties**

- 8.3.1 In the event of a tie on points with two or more states/territories, the state/territory winning the most games in sectional and play-off games will take the higher position.
- 8.3.2 In the event of a tie on most games won in sectional and play-off games with two or more state/territories, then the net shots (net shots equals total shots for minus total shots against) in all four competitions will be used to decide the state/territory which takes the higher position.
- 8.3.3 In the event of a tie on net shots, the state/territory scoring the highest aggregate number of shots from the four competitions will decide the State/Territory which takes the higher position.
- 8.3.4 In the event of two or more state/territories still being tied on shots, the state/territory having the lowest aggregate number of shots scored against them from the four competitions will decide the state/territory which takes the higher positions.

### **8.4. Presentations**

- 8.4.1 All awards shall be presented to a representative of the winning state/territory authority at the conclusion of the event and that state/territory authority shall hold the shield until the next championships.
- 8.4.2 Medals will be presented to the gold, silver and bronze medallists in each event. Medals will only be awarded to the players that play in the final game.

## **9. ATTIRE**

### **9.1. Uniforms**

- 9.1.1 All playing attire must comply with the [BA NMP Logo policy](#).
- 9.1.2 All players will wear any form of sponsorship material that is supplied by the sponsors of the event.
- 9.1.3 No player will wear any other form of sponsorship material unless it forms part of the official STA uniform.
- 9.1.4 Players shall wear their playing uniform at the opening and closing ceremonies.

## 9.2. Footwear

Footwear must comply with the shoes currently approved by Bowls Australia. A definitive list of the shoes currently approved is available on the Bowls Australia web site at: <https://www.bowls.com.au/get-involved/attire-equipment/footwear/>

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. This warning will be lodged and recorded with the Tournament Director. The offending player will then be provided up until the starting time of their subsequent game to comply with the BA NMP 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 must use bowls discs supplied by their STA, and these discs must be used on all bowls used for play during the event. Bowls discs that are used must not obscure the Serial Number or World Bowls stamp (Law 52.1.8). Officials have the right to instruct players to replace bowls discs due to discolouration, damage or inappropriate placement.

## 11. 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, all participants agree 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](#)

### 11.1. Anti-Doping

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

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.

### **11.2. Alcohol**

The consumption of alcohol by players, coaches or team managers is strictly prohibited during play.

### **11.3. Smoking**

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

### **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.

### **11.5. 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.

## **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

There is no prize money allocated to this event.

## 14. OTHER LAWS, 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. BA Policies

All Bowls Australia policies will be enforced during this event. To access these, visit the BA website. <http://www.bowls.com.au/About-BA/Documents>

## 15. CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Andrew Howie

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