

BOWLS
AUSTRALIA



Domestic Regulations

November 2008

Plain English Campaign's Crystal Mark does not apply to these domestic regulations.

Domestic regulations for Australia

Contents

Name	Topic	Page
Regulation 1	Greens	85
1.1	Synthetic greens	85
1.2	Standards for green construction	85
1.3	Minimum width of rinks	85
1.4	Boundary pegs	85
1.5	Centre of boundary pegs	85
1.6	Boundary threads	86
Regulation 2	Bowls	86
2.1	Distinguishing marks on bowls	86
2.2	Re-testing and re-stamping of bowls	86
2.3	Deposit paid on challenge of bowls	86
2.4	Stamps on bowls	87
Regulation 3	The game	87
3.1	Playing on the same rink	87
3.2	Re-spotting the jack	87
3.3	Scoreboards	87
3.4	Artificial delivery devices	88
Regulation 4	Replacement and substitute players	88
Regulation 5	Attire	90
Regulation 6	Concurrent events	90
Regulation 7	Appeal against umpire's decision	90
Regulation 8	Affiliation of clubs	92
Regulation 9	Registration of players	92
Regulation 10	Overseas visits and tours	93
Regulation 11	Master's Qualifications Policy	93
Regulation 12	Disciplinary Regulations	94
Regulation 13	Extreme Weather Policy	94
Regulation 14	Delaying play	94

Bowls Australia is empowered to make domestic regulations in regard to a number of matters. (Law 17.1) The following matters are listed in the law:-

1 Greens

1.1 Use of synthetic greens (Law 2.4)

- 1 Both vegetation and synthetic surfaces are approved as a playing surface for playing bowls.
- 2 The Controlling Body may decide to conduct an event on either or both types of surface, but must advise this decision to the players in the Conditions of Play.

1.2 Standards for greens constructed in line with previous editions of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls (Law 2.5)

- 1 Bowls Australia has noted that there is no change in the standard of construction of greens.

1.3 Standards for the minimum width of a rink (Law 5.1)

- 1 Bowls Australia has noted that, for Australia, there is no change in the minimum width of rinks.

1.4 Standards for boundary pegs made in line with the previous editions of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls (Law 5.5)

- 1 Bowls Australia has noted that there is no change in the standard for boundary pegs on outdoor greens other than they must be fixed to the bank in accordance with Law 5.5 (dot point 2).

1.5 Requirements for thin black vertical lines to mark the centre of boundary pegs fixed to or on top of the face of the bank (Law 5.5)

- 1 For boundary pegs fixed on top of the bank, no thin black vertical line is required to mark the centre of the peg.
- 2 For boundary pegs fixed to the face of the bank, the centre of the boundary peg should be marked with a thin black vertical line.

1.6 Use of boundary threads (Law 5.9)

- 1 Boundary threads will not be used for domestic outdoor play in Australia.

2 Bowls

2.1 Distinguishing marks on bowls (Law 8.1.5)

- 2.1.1 The distinguishing marks on a bowls should be clearly visible from a distance of 1.5 metres.
- 2.1.2 In addition to the manufacturer's name, a sponsor's name and/or a personal name and/or a club name can be engraved on that same side of each bowl.
- 2.1.3 If the grooved rings and/or dimples are coloured, each bowl in the set should be coloured the same.

2.2 Testing and Stamping of bowls (Law 8.2.3):

- 2.2.1 Bowls Australia reserves the right to randomly test a set of bowls owned by or used by a player. It is the responsibility of each bowler who participates in club championship competitions and above to ensure that all sets of bowls used by the bowler in the event(s) comply with the legal requirement that the matched sets have a bias equal to or greater than the Working Reference Bowl (Law 8.2.1)

2.3 The deposit to be paid when a challenge to bowls is lodged (Law 8.3.4):

- 2.3.1 The amount is \$150.00

2.4 Requirements for the stamp on bowls (Law 9.5):

- 2.4.1 As a minimum, all bowls must carry the stamp of the current calendar year or greater in which the competition/event takes place where BA is the controlling body. The definition of a bowls stamp can be found in the Laws of the Sport of Bowls – Crystal Mark Edition (Law 9).

2.5 Consequences for an event/competition as a result of a Bowls Challenge:

- 2.5.1 The following actions will be applied by the Tournament Director once a Challenge has been lodged:
 - 2.5.1.1 The bowls are to be sent immediately to the nearest licensed bowls tester as per Law 8.4.
 - 2.5.1.2 If subsequent games are being played after the challenge within the same event the following action should be applied:
 - a) Sectional Play – The player may continue play with another set of legal bowls until the result of the testing is determined. Should the Bowls fail, the Laws of the Sport of Bowls – Crystal Mark Edition Law 8.5.1 will be applied.

- b) Knockout Play – The result of the test must be determined before any subsequent games can be played.
- 2.5.1.3 Where the result of the test is not available in a practicable timeframe, the tournament/event conditions of play will prevail over the Domestic Regulations.

2.6 Bowls failing a test

- 2.6.1 Law 8.5 from the Laws of the Sport of Bowls – Crystal Mark Edition indicates that when a player's bowls fail the table test then the game in which they were challenged should be forfeited to the opponent. 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 bowler.
- 2.6.2 Law 8.6.2 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls – Crystal Mark Edition indicates that any player who intentionally alters the bias of a set of bowls other than by a Licensed Bowls Tester will be suspended from playing for as long as Bowls Australia determines.
- 2.6.3 In determining the penalty, the minimum penalty applicable for intentionally altering the bias of a bowl is 12 months.

3 The game

3.1 Requirements for playing on the same rink on the day of a competition or game (Law 12.4)

- 1 A player should not play on a rink on which he/she is drawn to play in another game that day.
- 2 If a player has already played a game earlier in the day, he/she should not play another game on the same rink on the same day.
- 3 This regulation will not apply to televised, grand prix or other Bowls Australia nominated events.

3.2 Re-spotting the jack in formats other than sets play (Law 15.5)

- 1 A Controlling Body may elect to follow the laws of sets play for spotting the jack in other than sets play events. The players should be advised of the decision, which should be included in the Conditions of Play advertised when entries are being called for the event.

3.3 Use of a scoreboard instead of one of the scorecards (Law 37.3.2)

- 1 A scorecard should be kept and completed by the second of each team. If there is no scoreboard attendant available, the seconds between them should update the scoreboard at least every second end.

3.4 Artificial devices for delivering the jack or a bowl (Law 38.5)

- 1 The manufacturer or retailer of artificial devices for the delivery of a jack or bowl will submit a sample of the device to Bowls Australia for approval before offering it for use by bowlers.
- 2 Bowls Australia delegates to the state and territory associations the responsibility to approve applications for the use of artificial devices for the delivery of the jack and bowls.
- 3 The state and territory associations should keep a register of approvals given to individual players including the device approved, the date it was granted, and the period of the approval if it is temporary.

4 Replacements and Substitutes

4.1 Replacement and Substitute players (Law 51.9)

- 1 An **eligible member** is a player who could have been included in the original team or side.
- 2 An **intended member** is one whose entry has been accepted in a team or side for a particular competition. From the time that the entry is lodged until the game commences the player is an intended player.
- 3 A **replacement player** is one who is appointed to take the position of an intended member who is unable to play in or continue playing in a competition for a reason accepted by the controlling body and unable to return before the completion of the competition. The appointment will be subject to approval by the controlling body and the replacement player will be:
 - (a) a player who has not already participated in the competition;
 - (b) a player who satisfies the eligibility requirements to be a member of a team as stated in the conditions of play;
 - (c) Only one replacement player per team shall be permitted per competition;
 - (d) Players shall not be transferred from one team to another.A replacement player can play in any position and will have the same rights as the original team member.
- 4 A **substitute** is a member who acts as a proxy for an intended member or a constituted player in a team who is unavailable or physically incapable and therefore prevented from attending or continuing in a game.
- 5 If an original team member is unable to play at any time, including in the first end of the first game, for a reason accepted by the Controlling Body, then a substitute shall be permitted under the provisions of Law 51 and their name shall be recorded as a substitute for the team member.
- 6 A substitute should be chosen from available eligible players whose playing ability should not be taken into account.
- 7 An **affiliated member** is one who is a member of a club that is affiliated either directly or indirectly with a State or Territory Authority.
- 8 If there is no eligible member available, an affiliated member may act as replacement or substitute, provided the umpire is satisfied that the affiliated member's playing ability is not better than that of the absent player in the team.
- 9
 - (a) The use of a Substitute is subject to the prior approval of the controlling body for the competition.
 - (b) A controlling body may define the circumstances which it will not accept as valid reason for a player's unavailability. However, a substitute is not to be permitted if an intended player enters another competition scheduled to be played at the same time.
 - (c) If a substitute is refused on these grounds the controlling body shall declare the position of the absent player vacant and the provisions of DR 4.1.3 shall apply.
 - (d) Only one player may be replaced in a team.
 - (e) Only one substitute will be allowed in a team.

- (f) Only a fours team may contain a substitute and a replacement player simultaneously.
- (g) A triples or pairs team shall be permitted one substitute or one replacement player, but not both simultaneously.
- (h) No substitute or change of personnel shall be permitted in any singles game, except that in any sides match a substitute or replacement player may be permitted to play in any singles game.
- 10 In a team which is not part of a side a game shall be forfeited if one member be absent and no substitute be approved by the controlling body.
- 11 In a side one substitute may be allowed in each team.
- 12 In a side, if the required substitutes are either not available, or not allowed, the game shall be forfeited unless the controlling body allows, if circumstances warrant, a side to play with its teams one player short.
- 13 A member who acts as a substitute, if he remains eligible, may continue to act as a substitute in that or any other team in the same competition.
- 14 A substitute can play in any position except that of skip, and the other players can arrange their positions as desired.
- 15 A substitute can be changed at the completion of any end during the game or between succeeding games in the same competition.
- 16 Each member of a team will become a **constituted player** in a team immediately that member delivers his first bowl.
- 17 An intended member will become a constituted player in the team immediately a substitute acting for the intended member delivers his first bowl.
- 18 (i) Each player having delivered a bowl, the team shall become constituted and shall not be altered during a game in either personnel or playing positions, except as provided in clause 9(c), or as necessitated by the introduction of a substitute.
- (ii) Prior to the start of any subsequent game in the same competition the playing positions of the constituted personnel may be changed.
- 19 A constituted player for whom a substitute was obtained should, if available and physically capable and still eligible, rejoin the team in the constituted player's original position at the start of the next end and the other players should revert to their original positions.
- 20 A constituted player in a team or a side, whether defeated or not shall be ineligible to become a constituted player in any other team in the same competition.
- 21 A constituted member of a team, whether defeated or not, cannot act as a substitute in another team in that competition.
- 22 If an intended member, team or side withdraws without being constituted, the member will be regarded as not having entered the competition and be eligible to be a replacement player or substitute in that competition.
- 23 An intended team credited with a win by forfeit will be a constituted team.
- 24 An intended team receiving a bye in the first round of a competition will be a constituted team as soon as their opponents in the next round play their first bowl.
- 25 The controlling body may impose special conditions on the composition of teams and the qualification of team members. Such information shall be stated in the conditions of play which shall be published at the time entries are requested.
- 26 The awarding of a trophy to a substitute in a winning team shall be the prerogative of the controlling body.

5 Attire (Appendix A.2)(Appendix A.3)

- 1 Bowls Australia has adopted a policy for attire, including shoes and gloves, which can be upgraded from time to time and can be downloaded from the Bowls Australia web site.

6 Concurrent events

- 1 If a player qualifies for more than one event under the control of the same Controlling Body and is instructed to play in one event, the player should not be penalised for failing to attend any other event which is set down to be played at the same time.
- 2 Where a player is scheduled to play in a championship event being conducted by a Controlling Body and is not able to do so because of selection to play in or officiate at an international or interstate event scheduled to be played at the same time, or to take part in a selection trial for such an event, reasonable time being allowed for travel:
 - the championship event should be re-scheduled, or
 - if the event cannot be rescheduled, then the player should decide which event to contest.

7 Appeal against umpire's decision

- 1.1 An umpire's decision upon a question relating to the meaning or interpretation of any law or given set of circumstances not covered in the law may be subject to an appeal to the state or territory association through the Controlling Body by the skip of either team in a team game or the manager of either side in a side game or by either player in a singles game.
- 1.2 The decision of the state or territory association should be final and binding with respect to the appeal submitted.

- 1.3 If the appellant requests, the state or territory association should submit the case to the Bowls Australia National Rules Committee whose decision should be binding for future occasions.

Procedure

- 2.1 If, on hearing the umpire's decision, the player decides to appeal the decision, then the umpire should be advised by the player who should pay to the umpire a deposit of \$50.
- 2.2 The umpire should as soon as possible submit a written report on all the circumstances leading up to the appeal, including the decision which is subject to the appeal, forwarding it together with the deposit to the state or territory association.
- 2.3 If, in the opinion of the state or territory association, the appeal is found to be frivolous, the deposit should be forfeited; otherwise it should be returned to the appellant.
- 2.4 If it be required that the result of the game or competition be decided forthwith or at the end of play on the day on which the incident occurred, then, whether or not the umpire's decision be later found by the state or territory association or the Bowls Australia National Rules Committee to be incorrect, it shall be final and binding in respect of all circumstances adjudicated upon and no further action will be taken by the state or territory association or the Bowls Australia National Rules Committee other than under the terms of 2.6.
- 2.5 If an immediate result of the game or competition be not considered necessary, or if the game or competition involves play at a later date of a further round, and before such later date the decision made by the umpire is held to be incorrect either by the state or territory association or the Bowls Australia National Rules Committee on appeal, then the state or territory association will forthwith make

any consequential adjustment to the score and/or take any further action that may become necessary to rectify the result of the original decision of the umpire.

- 2.6 In the event of the umpire's decision being ultimately held to be incorrect, or varied in any way, and whether the matter be dealt with under the terms of either sub-clause 2.4 or 2.5, in either case Bowls Australia or the relevant state or territory association should take steps to disseminate the correct decision in the given circumstances.

In addition, there are a number of matters for which Bowls Australia has made domestic regulations that are not mentioned in the Laws of the Sport of Bowls – Crystal Mark Edition.

8 Affiliation of clubs

- 1 Bowling clubs should be affiliated with a state or territory association.
- 2 No application for affiliation with a state or territory association should be accepted from a club outside a state or territory's boundary unless the state or territory in whose boundary the club is situated approves it.
- 3 No application from a club to transfer from one state or territory association to another should be accepted unless the state or territory association with which it is affiliated approves it.

9 Registration of players

- 1 All players within Australia should be registered with at least one state or territory association.
- 2 A player may be a member of more than one affiliated club, but must nominate one club (nominated club) as being the club with which the player identifies for the purposes of playing state championship or other championship

- events (not including pennant or open events) conducted by a state or territory association or Bowls Australia (championship events).
- 3 Any player wishing to represent a club other than the player's nominated club in a championship event must obtain a transfer to that other club before he or she is eligible to play in that championship event.
 - 4 A state or territory association should not unreasonably withhold a transfer sought by a player.
 - 5 Any dispute arising under Regulation 9 will be determined in accordance with the Bowls Australia Grievance Procedure set out in the Bowls Australia constitution.

10 Overseas visits and tours

- 1 Any player affiliated with a state or territory association desirous of visiting overseas clubs as an accredited representative of Bowls Australia or a state or territory association should first seek the approval of Bowls Australia.
- 2 No member of a club affiliated with a state or territory association should take part in an overseas tour not sponsored by Bowls Australia, of which one of the primary purposes is the playing of bowls, without the prior consent in writing of Bowls Australia for the conduct of such tour.
- 3 Any application for authority for such a tour should be in writing and addressed to the executive officer of Bowls Australia not less than two months prior to the proposed date of departure.

11 Masters Qualification Policy

- 1 Bowls Australia has adopted a Masters Qualification Policy which can be upgraded from time to time and can be downloaded from the Bowls Australia web site.

12 Disciplinary Regulations

- 1 Bowls Australia has adopted Disciplinary Regulations which can be upgraded from time to time and can be downloaded from the Bowls Australia web site.

13 Extreme Weather Policy

- 1 Bowls Australia has adopted an Extreme Weather Policy which can be upgraded from time to time and can be downloaded from the Bowls Australia web site.

14 Delaying play

- 1 If the umpire, either by their own observation or on appeal from one of the skips or the opponent in singles, decides that a player is deliberately delaying the delivery of the player's bowl:
 - On the first occasion the umpire will warn the player.
 - If the player commits the same offence a second time the end will be regarded as completed and the opponents of the offender will score as many shots as there are bowls in use by such opponent.
 - If the player offends a third time the game will be forfeited to the opponent.