



## *2024–25 Open Pennant*

# *Local Conditions of Play*

To be used and read in conjunction with the Bowls NSW Conditions of Play (COP).

1. Pennant Matches shall be played in sections as per the approved Mid North Coast (MNC) Pennant draw. All matches shall be played unless determined otherwise by the MNC Match Committee (RMC).
2. RMC delegates authority to the designated home club for the running of the pennant game. The home club must provide a controlling body (CB) and umpire for the day. Please refer to Bowls NSW COP Clause 1.24. At the calling of the cards, the controlling body and umpires will be announced, along with any local rules & regulations.
3. Schedule:
  - a. Timetable – Saturday
    - i. 12:20pm Managers to be at club by this time to commence paperwork
    - ii. 12:30pm Practice to cease (penalty = disqualification)
    - iii. 12:35pm Managers to advise CB of the draw and rink allocation
    - iv. 12:40pm Cards called and 2 trial ends to commence
    - v. 1:00pm Play starts (any part of the trial ends not completed is to be abandoned)
  - b. Timetable – Sunday
    - i. 9:20am Managers to be at club by this time to commence paperwork
    - ii. 9:30am Practice to cease (penalty = disqualification)
    - iii. 9:35am Managers to advise CB of the draw and rink allocation
    - iv. 9:40am Cards called and 2 trial ends to commence
    - v. 10:00am Play starts (any part of the trial ends not completed is to be abandoned)
  - c. Alternative starting times can be arranged by the mutual agreement of competing clubs for play on the scheduled date. Any mutually agreed change between competing clubs for a regular or deferred match must be notified to RMC by both clubs.
  - d. In the event of an unfinished game or a deferred game due to weather, or any other reason, the game shall be scheduled to be played on the first available contingency day after the current weekend.
4. 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 of the local rules or regulations has taken place the following will occur:
  - i. The umpire will issue a warning to the offending player.
  - ii. Upon a second such offence by the same player, the Umpire shall declare the current end complete, and award 8 shots to the offending players opposing team.
  - iii. Upon a third such offence by the same player, the umpire will remove the offending player from the team, and the team will play the remainder of the game pursuant to BA Domestic Regulations 2.6 (Absentee Players in a Side Game).



## **Bowls NSW Conditions of Play**

### ***Explanatory Notes & Clauses of Note***

#### **11.1.7 Clubs with 2 or more sides in a Grade or Division**

- ii. The sides are considered equal within that grade or Division and players can play in any of the sides during all stages of play (if not graded higher).

#### **11.1.14 Play Not Completed**

- i. If a match is stopped due to inclement weather, the Controlling Body can allow for a period of up to 60 minutes to determine whether play can be re-commenced.
- ii. If a match is stopped and unable to be resumed, the match shall be
  - a) Deemed to be completed if
    - 54 or more ends have been completed (Open / Men)
    - 36 or more ends have been completed (Women)
  - b) resumed at a later date if less than 54/36 (as above) ends have been completed.
- iii. The Region should notify all participating clubs of any dates allocated for matches to be resumed as soon as practicable. Dates as listed in Season Calendar
- iv. If a match is not completed and cannot be resumed, any score cards used must be signed by both teams, noting time of stoppage, and handed to controlling body. Upon any resumption of play, on a later date, the teams are allowed 2 trial ends each, with the match resuming from the end last played.
- v. Host Clubs must notify the Region of any match not able to be completed on the day of play together with reason for stoppage.
- vi. Regions may determine that if a match will have no bearing on sectional results that it is not required to be completed and the match will be declared a tie (5 points each).
- vii. Matches determined by the Controlling Body as not requiring to be completed may be considered to count towards grading and eligibility for Post-Section.

#### **13.4.1. Player Eligibility:**

Player's eligibility to participate in Bowls NSW Open State Pennants is based on:

- i. Their grading (if any) from their previous season and then
- ii. Their grading when attained in the current season.

#### **13.4.4. Variation of Eligibility**

- i. Any variation to a player's eligibility must have the written approval of the State Match Committee. Such application must be made by completing the Player Regrade Application form, which must be sent to Region for endorsement, prior to being sent to State Match Committee for approval.
- ii. Clubs must ensure that their grades proposed to be allocated (before commencement of the season) allow for selection of their players in grades in which they are eligible to play in accordance with these Conditions of Play. An application for elevation should be submitted as per 13.2.4.4 if necessary.
- iii. Applications for variation of players' eligibility may not be granted for clubs with an excess of higher graded players and may result in the club being elevated to appropriate grade.
- iv. Any player granted a variation of eligibility (regrade) will be counted as **1 of 3 players** allowed to play in any grade that is **more than 2 grades** below their Previous Season Grade.

#### **13.4.10 All Players**

All players (other than previous season winners or players with an eligibility variation) shall be eligible to play **no more than two (2) grades below** their previous season grading except as otherwise provided in these Conditions of Play, regardless of Grades entered by their current club.



#### 13.4.11.2. N Grade

A maximum of three players with an “N” grade are eligible to play in the next lowest side entered (below their N grading) by the club.

#### 13.4.11.3. Non-Consecutive Grades.

Where a club has a gap of more than two grades below a player’s previous season grading, that player is eligible to play in the club’s next lowest side entered by that club (note this will apply to all players in that club). Unless they have transferred, see 13.4.11.1.

Additionally, a maximum of three (3) players are eligible to play more than 2 grades below their current grade in their club’s next grade that is more than 2 grades below the player’s current grade.

*So, as an example, I have had it confirmed in writing by the State Match Committee that “If a club fielded grade 1, 4, & 7... that there is no limit of Grade 1 players that can play in Grade 4, but only 3 of them could play in Grade 7”*

#### 13.4.11.4. Total Number of Additional Eligibility

Each Side shall be a limited a total of three for all categories (combined) under this clause. (Eg, 1 player regressed, 1 “N” player and 1 Transfer = 3 Maximum)

#### 13.4.12. Graded During Season

A player who becomes graded during a season shall be ineligible to play in a lower grade from the date they become graded. The player shall not play in a lower grade except for a rescheduled match. (they must have been eligible on the original scheduled date and entered into that side in BowlsLink before that date).

#### 13.4.13. Player Graded in Current Season

A player shall be graded in the current season once they have played the required number of sectional matches in that grade. The required number of sectional matches in one less than 50% of matches in that grade, with the exception of a competition with 2 sectional matches, where 1 match shall grade the player.

*Our draws have 8, 9, and 10 games for the season. The threshold for 8 games is 3, The threshold for 9 or 10 games is 4.*

#### 13.4.16. Eligibility for Post Sectional:

To be eligible for post sectional play a player must have been:

- i. Graded in the current season in that Grade or in a lower Grade OR
- ii. If not graded in the current season, have a previous season grading in that grade or lower or have never been graded in Open State Pennants.

#### 13.5.1. State Finals Draw

- i. State Finals will be sectional play followed by knockout finals.
- ii. Clubs shall nominate their sides as three (3) teams of four (4) by completing the Bowls NSW Open State Pennant Finals Registration Form. In each match the draw will be Team 1 v Team 1; Team 2 v Team 2; Team 3 v Team 3.
- iii. **If two sides are drawn to play each other in the knockout stages of the finals and those two sides have already played each other in sectional play, the Controlling Body will alter the rink draw to ensure the same teams do not play each other.**

*This means there are no draw of cards, the cards are written up to match what is in Bowlslink, except if clause iii applies.*

*I have personally had the experience at State Finals where clause iii. was not adhered to, and I wasn’t up with this particular clause in the COP. If you get to the State finals, and into the knockout stage, know the rules, and if this happens to you, ask the controlling body to change the cards in accordance with this clause.*