

The Hills District Mens Bowling Club



THE HILLS CLUB
THE HUB OF THE HILLS

Club Championships 2024-2025
Conditions of Play
(Effective 1 July 2024)

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1 Laws of the sport of bowls

Club Championships matches will be played in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls and the NSW Conditions of Play promulgated each year.

2 Bowls committee

The HDBC Men's Bowls Committee is responsible for the conduct of all Club Open Championships, Men's Championships, Mixed Tournaments and Social Bowls.

3 Club Championships

3.1 Eligibility for entry into Club Championships

To enter a Club Championship:

1. the player must be a full bowling member of the HDBC and a registered member of Bowls NSW.
2. The HDBC must be the player's declared club at the time of the championship.
3. The player must not have played in the same championship event (men's or women's) in this or any other state or territory association in the same championship year.

3.2 Open events

3.2.1 Open Major Singles

This is an Association event. NSW State Conditions of Play apply.

All members are eligible to play in the Open Major Singles

A player cannot enter in a Women's Singles club championship and the Open Major Singles in the same championship year.

Duration of the match will be the first to reach 25 shots.

3.2.2 Open Minor Singles

If a player has won a Men's, or Women's:

- Minor Singles in a previous year, or
- Major Singles Championship

in this Club or any other Club or higher, that player is not eligible to play in the Open Minor Singles Championship.

A player who enters the Open Minor Singles may also enter the Open Major Singles.

A player cannot enter in a Women's Singles Club Championship and Open Minor Singles event in the same championship year.

Duration of the match will be the first to reach 25 shots.

3.2.3 Men's Senior Singles

Men over the age of 60 at the start of the competition are eligible to play in the Men's Senior Singles.

Duration of the match will be the first to reach 21 shots.

3.2.4 Open Major Pairs

This is an Association event. NSW State Conditions of Play apply.

All members are eligible to play in the Open Major Pairs

A player cannot enter in a Women's Pairs Club Championship and the Open Major Pairs in the same championship year.

This event will be played 4 bowls over 21 ends

3.2.5 Open Minor Pairs

If a player has won a Minor Pairs in a previous year, Open Pairs Championship in this Club or any other Club or higher, that player is not eligible to play in the Minor Pairs Championship.

A player who enters the Minor Pairs may also enter the Open Major Pairs

A player cannot enter in a Women's Pairs Club Championship and the Minor Pairs in the same championship year

This event will be played 4 bowls over 21 ends.

3.2.6 Men's Senior Pairs

Men over the age of 60 at the start of the competition are eligible to play in the Men's Senior Pairs.

This event will be played 3 bowls over 21 ends

3.2.7 Open Triples

All members are eligible to play in the Open Triples

A player cannot enter in a Women's Triples Club Championship and the Open Triples in the same championship year.

This event will be played with 2 bowls over 21 ends.

3.2.8 Open Fours

All members are eligible to play in the Open Fours.

A player cannot enter in a Women's Fours Club Championship and the Open Fours in the same championship year.

This event will be played with 2 bowls over 21 ends.

3.2.9 Open Handicap Pairs (Major/Minor Pairs)

For this event, a Major Player is a player who has been graded in the highest two (2) pennant grades in the previous completed pennant season. All other players are regarded as Minor Players.

Where the number of minor and major entries is unbalanced due to more minor players nominating than majors, minor players will be moved to the major entries to even the nominations.

The selectors will be the arbitrator for minor players being allocated major status or vice versa.

Players will be awarded a handicap based on their highest current pennant grading. To a maximum of 7 points

	Men's/Open Pennant Grade	Women's Pennant Grade
Grade 1	1	4
Grade 2	2	5
Grade 3	3	6
Grade 4	4	7
Grade 5	5	7
Grade 6	6	7
Grade 7 or non-graded players	7	7

This event will be played 3 bowls over 18 ends.

3.3 Mixed events

3.3.1 Mixed Pairs

There must be one male and one female player.

The team may play in any order.

This event will be played 3 bowls over 18 ends.

3.3.2 Mixed Triples

The composition of a team shall be 2 ladies and 1 man or 1 lady and 2 men.

The team members may play in any order.

This event will be played with 2 bowls over 21 ends.

3.3.3 Mixed Fours

The composition of a team shall be 2 ladies and 2 men who may play in any order.

This event will be played with 2 bowls over 21 ends.

3.4 Other events

3.4.1 Junior Singles

Open to all bowling members who are under the age of 18 at the start of the competition.

Duration of the match will be the first to reach 21 shots.

3.4.2 Open Rookies Singles

To be eligible a player must,

- not have been a bowling member of any club (anywhere in the world) before 1st April 2022.
- not played in more than one year of Rookies previously.
- not have won a championship event at any club, or higher, prior to this championship year

A player cannot enter both the Women's Rookies and the Open Rookies Singles

All games will be contested until such time as either player compiles a score of 17 shots.

3.5 Non planned events

The Bowls Committee reserves the right to approve other events as required.

4 Entry for Club Championships

Entry for Club Championships are to be made on the Championship Entry form which will be posted on the club notice board not less than three weeks prior to the scheduled closing date for entry.

On entry to all Club events the member/s accepts the Conditions of Play as set out in this document.

5 Draws

The Bowls Coordinator will be responsible for the draw of Club Championships. All Championship draws are to be undertaken on an open draw basis in the presence of at least 1 other bowling member.

The draw for each event will be posted on the club notice board not less than five days prior to scheduled commencement date.

6 Scheduled playing dates

All Championship games are to be played on their scheduled date and time.

Should a player or a team be unable to play on the scheduled date or time., subject to the agreement of the opposing team and the Bowls Coordinator, the match may be rescheduled and played *PRIOR* to the next scheduled game date.

If it is not possible to organise a game prior to the next scheduled game date the unavailable player shall be substituted as per clause 9 or the team requesting the change shall forfeit the game (with exception of the Finals - refer [Finals](#) clause).

Start time regulations will apply to all revised date or start times agreed by the Men's Bowls Committee.

The Men's Bowls Committee reserve the right to alter or set new dates of play to complete Club Championships and tournaments.

6.1 Finals

All finals matches are to be played on the scheduled date.

Should circumstances dictate that a player or a team is unable to play on the scheduled date, the Men's Bowls Committee, with agreement of the team captains, may make arrangement to reschedule the game in order to avoid the introduction of a substitute or forfeiture.

Only one postponement per team will be permitted.

Where the game cannot be arranged within a period of four weeks of the original date, it must be referred to the Men's Bowls Committee for a ruling.

6.2 Failure to attend

If a team/player fails to attend any scheduled match (including rescheduled matches), without providing 24hours notice to the Bowls Coordinator, that team/player will be withdrawn from the event and the opposing team/player will be declared winner of that match.

7 Order of precedence

Events that are recognised as a Bowls Australia, Bowls NSW, Sydney North West Zone 10 (soon to be Metro North West Region), events take precedence over Club Championships events.

Refer Clause 1.39 of Bowls NSW 2024-25 General conditions of play.

8 Rescheduled games

A player or team unable to play on the scheduled date takes full responsibility for arranging a game of convenience in accordance with Clause 6 ([Scheduled playing dates](#)) and does so on the understanding that.

- i) the Bowls Coordinator is advised of the team initiating the rescheduling of the game.
- ii) the arrangements make provision for a marker if required
- iii) the game itself does not justify having an umpire, or Controlling Body.
- iv) should a game, arranged after the scheduled date, not proceed for any reason or circumstance other than either side withdrawing from the event, the game will be forfeited by the team initiating the rescheduling.

9 Withdrawing from an event

If a player or team wish to withdraw from an event they must notify the bowls coordinator at least 24 hours before the schedule start of the game; including rescheduled games.

If a team withdraws from an event (including rescheduled games) then the opposing team will automatically progress to the next round.

If a team withdraws from the final then the opposing team will automatically be declared winner for that championship event.

10 Substitutes

Events that are recognised as a Bowls Australia, Bowls NSW, Sydney North West Zone 10 events take precedence over Club Championships events.

A substitute will not be permitted where a member is playing in any other external competition. In other situations, substitutes and/or replacements must comply with Domestic Regulations (DR2) of The Laws of Bowls.

11 Inclement weather

Where a scheduled event cannot be played due to inclement weather, the Men's Bowls Committee will authorise the Bowls Coordinator to reschedule round/s to be played on a revised date.

To ensure completion of the championship event within the prescribed time frame outlined in the published bowls calendar, the game/s may be rescheduled as needed. Refer [Clause 15](#) (Variations to Conditions of play)

Where a round/s is to be rescheduled, no less than five (5) days' notice is to be given.

12 Scheduled starting times

All Club Championships must commence on the posted starting time.

If after fifteen minutes from the scheduled start time of a game, one or more players are absent from a team, the defaulting team shall nominate an eligible substitute or forfeit the game.

The 15-minute delay shall not include the calling of cards and roll ups.

Cards shall be called at least 20 minutes before the scheduled starting time.

13 Championship playing days

Club Championships are to be scheduled by the Bowls Committee.

Championships may be played on any green, including under lights.

Club Championship games will not be scheduled on public holiday weekends or Mother's Day or Father's Day.

14 Same day events

Where a player is drawn to play men's and mixed championships on the same date, the Bowls Coordinator will schedule one game in the morning, with the second game to be played in the afternoon.

Unless otherwise approved by the Bowls Committee, both games are to be played as per draw.

15 Dress requirements

From 1 June 2022 it is a requirement for all Club Championships and Association events to wear the current approved Club uniform which complies with the respective Attire By-law.

Where members fail to comply with this rule the Bowls Secretary will not allow the player to compete in the competition.

16 Variations to conditions of play

The Bowls Committee may, when required, and prior to the day of play of an event, vary the Conditions of Play as deemed necessary to complete an event. This may include, but is not restricted to, changing the number of ends to be played for non-Association events, revising scheduled starting times and/or the date of an event.

The Bowls Coordinator, or in his absence, the Controlling Body may, when required, and on the day of an event, vary the Conditions of Play as deemed necessary to complete an event. This may include, but is not restricted to, changing the number of ends/rounds to be played for non-association events, revise scheduled starting times and/or the date of an event.

When an Association event has 3 sectional rounds in a day, a reduced match duration may be used. Refer Bowls NSW 2024-25 Conditions of play –Duration of Matches(Clause 3.3.3)

17 Markers

The Bowls Coordinator will be responsible to appoint markers for Single Championship events. Members who have entered a singles competition may be required to mark as many as two singles games during the prescribed event.

Players may be required to mark on the next scheduled round of the championship, even if that round falls on the following weekend.

Should a player not be available to mark, it is their responsibility to find a suitable replacement.

18 Marker's obligation

Where a member has failed to meet his obligation to mark a game as outlined in clause 16, they will be prohibited from competing in the next eligible Championship they have entered, unless they appeal in writing to the Men's Bowls Committee and is approved by the Men's Bowls Committee.

19 Instantaneous penalties

Refer to State COP section 35 Instantaneous Penalties and BA Penalty Instantaneous Penalties Policy.

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 Law or Rule or any action by a Player/s, (where there is no penalty specified in that Law or Rule) has taken place, including without limitation:

- Acting in an abusive, threatening or intimidating manner towards any person,
- Using obscene, offensive, abusive, threatening or intimidating language towards any person,
- Threatening any person with physical violence or assault,
- Assaulting any person,
- Acting in a manner likely to bring the sport of bowls into disrepute,
- Acting in a manner likely to bring Bowls NSW or any affiliated body into disrepute,
- Breaching the Bowls NSW Smoke Free Greens Policy.

Then after consultation with the controlling body (in their absence the team/side managers), the end shall be immediately regarded as completed and the following shall occur:

- i. The opponent of the offender shall be awarded as many shots as there are bowls in use by the Opponent in singles or opposing Team in a team game or team in a side game.
- ii. Upon a second such offence by the same player in the same game, the Umpire shall award the game to the Opponent/s according to Laws C2 and C10.
- iii. Should this penalty be applied, no Replacement or Substitute player will be allowed for their Team.
- iv. In a Team game the defaulting Team will forfeit the game to their Opponent.
- v. In a Side game BA Domestic Regulations 2.6 (Absentee Players in a Side Game) will apply.
- vi. A Replacement player is not permitted for a singles player.

The umpire must forward a written detailed report about any incident involving an instantaneous penalty to the respective Controlling Body within seven (7) days of the incident.