



BOWLS SOUTH AFRICA – AFFILIATION FEE POLICY

Bowling Clubs, District and Provincial Associations and the National Federation Bowls South Africa are organisations engaged in amateur sporting activities administered primarily by volunteers with the goal of developing, co-ordinating and promoting the sport of Bowls. These bodies do so for the benefit of members whether they participate socially or competitively regularly in the sport.

Bowls South Africa is recognised by the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture and World Bowls as the only authority for administering bowls in the Republic of South Africa. It therefore follows that Bowls South Africa, Provincial and District authorities are independent bodies created to coordinate policies, formulate rules of participation, facilitate and coordinate such participation, implement recognised internationally accepted rules and regulations and implement programmes aimed at continued exposure of the sport so that future participants are attracted to the game.

The singular benefit of these activities to each member is best obtained through the coordinated efforts of a collective entity for it is through this collective effort that economies of scale are achieved and the amalgamation of ideas is formulated. It follows that Affiliation fees should not be seen as something linked to competitiveness but rather a contribution to the continued support of a collective unit that is best positioned to coordinate activities for a number of entities. By supporting the infrastructure of the sport members have the benefit of structured and organised activities as well as the assurance that standards for umpiring, coaching, greenkeeping and other matters of interest to members is maintained at the best standards available to all.

The South African Bowling Association was founded in 1904 as the governing body for the sport of bowls in South Africa. The growth of the women's game led to the establishment of South African Women's Bowling Association in 1931 to control and promote the women's game. The two controlling bodies merged in 1996 to establish Bowls South Africa. The survival and prosperity of the sport has been as a result of the contribution made through all these years by the many individuals who have participated in the game. The continued survival so that future generations can enjoy our sport in a manner in which we all do today is reliant on the continued contribution that is made to both Bowls South Africa and District and Provincial Associations. If we tear at this fabric we will slowly dismantle the benefits of collective control and simply force the diversion of costs back to the individual originators of such costs losing all the benefits of economies of scale. The true cost to control and administer our sport that is undertaken by a vast force of volunteers is incalculable and certainly unaffordable if it were to be factored in to our Club, District, Province or National body.

One of our core objectives is to ensure the future sustainability of our sport and it therefore follows that **the policy of Bowls South Africa is that only registered bowlers may play on the bowling greens of affiliated clubs in South Africa.** In line with the goal of developing the sport structured activities aimed at involving people in the game are permitted but these programmes should not be of such a nature so as to replace the benefits associated with those who have permanent membership.