

CONDITIONS OF PLAY

Bowls South Africa Mixed Pairs

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Controlling Body: Bowls South Africa

Event: 2026 Bowls South Africa Mixed Pairs

Dates: 20 – 23 August 2026

Venue: Nelspruit BC, Mpumalanga

ENTRY CONDITIONS

1. **Affiliation**

1.1. Players must be a bona fide member of an affiliated club within the District Bowls Association, of Bowls South Africa (Bowls SA), which they are going to represent.

2. **Eligibility**

2.1. Each District affiliated to Bowls SA shall be entitled to enter their District Mixed Pairs winners in the Event. In the event of the winning team being unable to play the runners-up may be registered.

3. **Withdrawals**

3.1. Before the Start of the Event:

3.1.1. In the event that a player from the qualifying team is unavailable, for reasons acceptable to Bowls South Africa, the reserve, if nominated for the district event, will qualify to play, provided that at least one member of the original team is still available to play.

3.1.2. If no reserve was nominated for the District event, then a bona fide first call member of the same gender from that club, who did not participate in the District event, may be used as a substitute for the national playoffs.

3.1.3. The Event Committee must be immediately informed of any changes or withdrawals.

3.2. During Sectional Play:

3.2.1. Should a side withdraw at any time after commencement, with or without the consent of the Controlling Body, all their completed results up to the point of withdrawal shall stand. All remaining games, including any game in progress, shall be forfeited and the opposing team/s for that and the remaining un-played games shall be allocated three points and the net total of shots equal to the average net total of shots scored by the winners of all the

other games played in the same round/s of the same section.

COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS

4. Any complaint pertaining to discrimination (albeit it racial, religion, etc) and/or Safeguarding incidents must be reported directly to the Executive Committee Member on duty. Such matters will be dealt with in accordance with the Bowls SA Disciplinary Procedures and/or the Bowls SA Safeguarding Policy.
5. All appeals, whether to the Events Committee and/or to the Jury of Appeal should be done within 1 hour of the finalisation of the game concerned, and/or the decision by the Events Committee.

JURY OF APPEAL

6. The Executive will appoint the Jury of Appeal consisting of:
 - 6.1. A member of the Bowls SA Executive, failing that a person nominated by the Executive at their sole discretion.
 - 6.2. A member of the Host District's Executive Committee, who is not a Member of the Tournament Committee.
 - 6.3. A member of the National Standing Committee: Technical Officials (NSCTO) or, in the absence of such a member, the Convenor of the staging District's Technical Officials Standing Committee or their nominee (may not be a member of the Events Committee).
 - 6.4. A person with a legal background, as nominated by the Bowls SA Executive Committee. (Need not be present at the Event).
7. The decisions of the Jury of Appeal shall be final.

EVENTS STRUCTURE

8. **Event Schedule**
 - 8.1. The broad event schedule is as follows:
 - 8.1.1. 1st, 2nd and 3rd Day of the Event: Round Robin
 - 8.1.2. 4th Day of the Event: Final
 - 8.2. The final event draw will be confirmed and published no less than **14 days** prior to the start of the event.
 - 8.3. The Controlling Body reserves the right to amend the proposed event schedule due to any relevant factors.
9. **Format of Play**
 - 9.1. Teams will be divided into 2 (two) sections of 10 Teams. The composition of each section will be decided by the Controlling Body.
 - 9.2. The format of play for each event will be Sectional Play followed by a final between the winners of the two sections. There will be no playoff between the runners-up in each section as both will receive a Bronze medal. The winners of the two Sections will play in the final.
 - 9.3. All matches (including final) - Three bowls of a set, per player, 18 ends.

In the event of a tie, **in the final**, extra end/s shall be played until a result is achieved.

9.4. Dead Jacks (Dead Ends) are to be replayed.

9.5. Interrupted Games, albeit as a result of inclement weather:

9.5.1. Where fewer than 12 Ends have been completed, the game will be deemed to be a “no result”, and game points allocated accordingly. **No shots** shall be recorded.

9.5.2. Where more than 12 Ends have been completed the shots scored at the last completed end will be recorded and used to determine the allocation of game points.

9.6. Game points will be awarded during sectional play, as follows:

9.6.1. Three points for a win.

9.6.2. One point for a draw or no result.

9.6.3. Zero points for a loss.

10. **Alterations to the Format and Length of Games**

10.1. The Controlling Body, through its Events Committee in conjunction with the Bowls SA Executive Committee Member on duty, reserves the right to alter the format, times of play, greens and venues to suit local unforeseen circumstances, giving as much notice as practicable. The preferred method of contact in these circumstances will be via SMS/WhatsApp.

10.2. The Controlling Body, through its Events Committee in conjunction with the Bowls SA Executive Committee Member on duty, has the power to alter or amend the programme of the event as it considers necessary or appropriate if the weather or other conditions are unsuitable. The Controlling Body can also suspend play temporarily in any game or abandon any game, if it decides that this is essential to successfully carry out or finish the event. (Law 55.3.4)

10.3. Players must not leave the venue on game day until eliminated from the competition as game time may be altered and/or extra games scheduled by the Controlling Body, through its Events Committee in conjunction with the Bowls SA Executive Committee Member on duty, as required for the effective running of the event.

11. **Trial Ends**

11.1. One trial end in each direction may be played at the commencement of each game.

11.2. The Controlling Body reserves the right to amend the number of trial ends played in the case of unforeseen circumstances (as per law 5.1.2,

Laws of the Sport of Bowls).

12. **Practice.** As per Law 4, Laws of the Sport of Bowls.
13. **Greens and Direction Of Play**
 - 13.1. Two (2) greens will be used, and the sections will change greens each day.
 - 13.2. Play should be in the morning direction for rounds 1 and 2 and afternoon direction for round 3 each day.
14. **Tossing for Opening Play** - Skips should toss a coin. (Law 5.2).
15. **Scorecards**
 - 15.1. Final scorecards must be checked and signed by the players responsible for keeping the card and they must ensure that the time of completion of the game is noted on the scorecard (under Domestic Regulation 3.2) or the Marker in Singles, prior to submission to the tournament office.
 - 15.2. Errors in the processing of a 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. Exceptions will only be made if the players concerned can prove to the Tournament Director that a genuine error has occurred.

RESTRICTING THE MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS DURING PLAY

16. **Sectional Play**
 - 16.1. Leads may not walk up to the head, until they have played their third (last) bowl.
 - 16.2. Skips, after the delivery of their second bowl.
17. **Final** - There will be no restriction of movement during the final.
18. **Exceptional Circumstances** - In exceptional and limited circumstances, a skip can, with permission of the opposing skip, ask that a lead walks up to the head earlier than described above.

DELAYING PLAY

19. 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 play:
 - 19.1. The umpire will warn the player that they are being put on the stop watch, they will then be required to deliver all their bowls in each end of the remaining ends within a two-minute time period. A Technical Official allocated for the purpose will time the ends. Timing will commence as soon as the offending player steps on the mat until his/her bowl comes to rest. If the offending player does not meet with

this requirement he/she will forfeit any bowls remaining to be delivered in that end.

DETERMINING SECTION WINNERS

20. Section winners will be decided as follows:
 - 20.1. Highest number of **game points** scored will be ranked higher;
 - 20.2. If game points are equal, the team with **the highest net total shots** over all games in the section (shots for minus shots against) will be ranked higher;
 - 20.3. If game points and net total shots are equal, the Controlling Body will divide a player/teams' total of shots for, by the total of shots against to calculate a shot percentage. The player/team with the **highest shot percentage** will be ranked higher;
 - 20.4. If game points, net total shots and shots percentage are all equal, the player/team who **won the game** between the players or teams that are equal within their section will be ranked higher.
 - 20.5. If players/teams remain equal after using all ranking methods described in clause 20.1 through clause 20.4, the ranking of the teams will be determined by a Jury of Appeal.

DRESS AND FOOTWEAR

21. Participants are required to wear their District Colours for the duration of this Championship. (Colours to be loaned by the District if the player is not an officially selected District Player).
22. Players and Umpires shall wear conventional shoes or sports shoes which have a continuous sole or sole within a channel rise in the middle of the sole, as long as the sole is clearly in one piece and the heel area does not sit at a different height to the front of the sole. To assist in traction the sole can have indented grooves up to 2mm (thickness of matchstick), but no protuberances. The width of the rear part of the shoe shall be at least 50% of the widest part of the sole. Conventional sandals are acceptable providing they have a back strap. The National Authority reserves the right to allow or disallow the use of specific colours and brands of footwear.

DISTINCTIVE MARKINGS, BOWLS STICKERS AND DECALS

23. Bowls in a set of three must have distinctive and similar markings on each side and shall not have been tampered with.
24. District stickers should be used.
25. Districts should provide their team with Decals for use in flipboards.

LIVE- STREAMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

26. Bowls SA reserves the right to commission, take and/or use photographs or live-stream material taken during this event for further promotional purposes. Select matches at the event may be live streamed or broadcast through Bowls SA's chosen communications channel at the discretion of the Controlling Body.
27. Upon entering the Bowls SA Mixed Pairs parents and/or guardians, of a child under the age of 18, have the right to advise Bowls SA that consent has not been

given to film/video, live-stream or photograph their child.

28. By entering the Bowls SA Mixed Pairs all participants over the age of 18 have automatically given consent for themselves to be filmed/videoed, live-streamed or photographed by Bowls SA.

INTERRUPTION OF PLAY

29. In the event of adverse weather conditions, which includes lightning activity, excessive heat and humidity, or for any other valid reason, Club Tournament Official (CTO) shall temporarily suspend play. Play shall stop immediately and only resume when authorised by the CTO. Only the Controlling Body in conjunction with Bowls SA Executive duty member may abandon play and shall have the right to curtail the number of rounds/ends to be played to achieve a result. Umpires shall not be responsible to call off players during lightning/thunderstorm activity and shall refer any appeal by the players to the CTO or in the absence of the CTO to the umpire who should stay vigilant to the weather pattern. Once the appeal is accepted everyone will come off.

30. **Heat and Discomfort** - The CTO should be guided by applying suspension of play once the discomfort index exceeds 36 degrees in Temperature and 39 % in Humidity. Should the heat index reach the level for 'Great Discomfort', a compulsory 10-minute break must be taken by all players after 10 ends. Play must be suspended if the heat index reaches the extreme danger zone until such time the temperature decreases, or a decision of abandonment is made.

31. Lightning

31.1. The CTO shall assess the proximity of the lightning strikes by using a lightning meter. There must be Lightning detectors available at the Clubs in Districts where Lightning is prevalent. If the lightning is 15 km away the players must leave the greens immediately unless busy with scoring the end, if the end has been completed but measuring has not taken place they must score and leave the green. The lightning strike must be clear for 15 minutes in the 15km radius before they can go back on the greens. Any ends not completed will be replayed. Lightning Meters which reflect a distance of less than 15km will initiate a temporary evacuation of the green.

31.2. Where games are played at a Country Club the greens must be evacuated when the siren is sounded.

31.3. In the event of adverse weather conditions or any other reason causing a temporary disruption in play during a playing session, the CTO shall decide when play should be stopped and resumed.

SMOKING/ALCOHOL/CELL PHONES

32. Smoking (including artificial devices or e-cigarettes such as Twisp), Alcohol, Cell Phones and Handheld TV devices will not be permitted within 2 metres of the green while play is in progress. This ruling applies to all events under the control of Bowls South Africa.

Where **live scoring** apps are used, the designated person on the rink may use a cell phone for the purpose of live scoring only.

33. The penalty for transgressing is as follows:
- 33.1. Upon the first offence the Technical Official will warn the player via the Skip (or the player in singles) and record the players name and Club.
 - 33.2. Upon any subsequent offence by the same player, the Technical Official shall report the player to the Controlling Body, who shall take suitable action, which may include suspending the player from playing in the next round. The attitude of the player and the circumstances will contribute to any decision taken by the Controlling Body.
 - 33.3. The player has the right of appeal to the Jury of Appeal.
 - 33.4. If the offence is committed in the last round, the penalty will be carried forward to the relevant tournament for the following year.
 - 33.5. Should a player commit a third offence he/she will be banned from taking part in the Tournament and be suspended from playing in any other Bowls SA Tournaments for one year.

RADIO / COMMUNICATION DEVICES

34. The use any electronic devices such “two-way” radios, smart watches, earphones and earplugs during play is prohibited.

DRUG TESTING

35. Managers, Coaches and Players are to be aware of their responsibilities in regard to the anti-doping program and rules of the South African Institute for Drug Free Sport.

GENERAL

36. If anything should arise that is not specifically covered in these Conditions of Play, then the Bowls SA Modus Operandi (Events) and/or the Laws of the Sport of Bowls Crystal Mark 4th Edition will apply.