

DSA Lawn Bowls Section Guidelines



1. **COMMITTEE FORMATION:**

- 1.1. The Disability Sports Australia (DSA) Lawn Bowls Section Committee shall consist of between four – eight members, each person being appointed by their respective state wheelchair sport organisation and endorsed by the DSA Board. DSA reserves the right to invite representatives to join the Committee when appropriate.
- 1.2. The appointment of a Committee Chair shall be appointed every two years by the DSA Board.
- 1.3. The Committee, in partnership with the DSA Office, shall direct the business affairs of the lawn bowls section and conduct all relevant administrative duties, subject to DSA Board approval.
- 1.4. The Committee shall meet at least two times per year.

2. **MANUAL WHEELCHAIR TYRE REGULATIONS:**

- 2.1. To avoid potential damage to lawn bowls greens, whether grass or synthetic, wheelchair users should endeavour to show due care and consideration to ensure marks left on the green are negligible or, at worst, can be removed by a greens roller.

The following guidelines should be observed:

- Where possible, take a wide circle when turning on the green.
 - Large, usually rear, tyres (preferably pneumatic) with a minimum of two x 620 x 45mm is required. The most suitable tread patterns are slicks or inverted tread tyres (eg. a standard BMX tyre).
 - The most suitable tyres for the small or front wheels are 200mm x 50mm with a pneumatic tyre.
 - Castors, made of nylon or polyurethane are becoming increasingly popular. The width of these should be a minimum of 75mm. If the edges are sharp they must be rounded off.
- 2.2. If unsure as to the appropriate tyre tread, as a temporary or precautionary measure, duct tape can be placed over the tyre to give a smoother surface.
 - 2.3. The above are suitable for use in all conditions but in the case of particularly wet greens or other unusual circumstances, consultation and a common sense approach between the wheelchair user and club administrator/greenkeeper is recommended.

- 2.4. These recommendations are intended for Australian conditions only. For playing outside of Australia, it is the wheelchair bowlers' responsibility to ensure their tyre specifications are appropriate for the relevant country they are visiting.
- 2.5. Players requiring the use of motorised wheelchairs or scooters for an event or competition are to consult with the lawn bowls organising committee prior to attendance to gain approval for use and to ascertain relevant local/club guidelines.
- 2.6. Players requiring the use of walking frames for an event or competition are to consult with the lawn bowls organising committee prior to attendance to gain approval for use and to ascertain relevant local/club guidelines. All walking frames should be fitted with castors, made of nylon or polyurethane. The width of these should be a minimum of 75mm with rounded off edges or wheels 200mm x 50mm with a pneumatic tyre.

3. **NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS:**

- 3.1. Each January, in preparation for the following year's National Championships, a tender is to be circulated by DSA providing all states an opportunity to host the event. The successful tender will be recommended by DSA Lawn Bowls Section Committee to the DSA Board for final approval.
- 3.2. Where possible, National Championships should be held in conjunction with Bowls Australia events. If this is not possible, they should be rotated in a clock wise direction amongst states or territories that express an interest. April/May are the preferred months for the National Championships, another time will only be permitted after approval from the DSA Committee.
- 3.3. All championships shall be conducted under the Bowls Australia Laws of the Sport of Bowls unless otherwise specified in the DSA Lawn Bowls Section Guidelines. The Controlling Body for all championships is the DSA Lawn Bowls Section Committee. A staff member of the host organisation must be present at the championships at all times during the schedule of play.
- 3.4. The close of entries shall be no later than 4 weeks prior to the first day of play. DSA will provide the host with a draw template. The host shall provide the draw to the DSA Lawn Bowls Section Committee for approval no less than 3 weeks prior to the first day of play so that the draw can be released to teams no less than 2 weeks prior to the first day of play.
- 3.5. The controlling body or its representatives shall also approve any changes to the playing conditions due to inclement weather or other unforeseen events/incidents.
- 3.6. The schedule of play is final except in the event of inclement weather or other unforeseen events/incidents where the controlling body or its representative deems it necessary to change the schedule. Players must be available for all days of competition in the event

that schedules need to be changed due to inclement weather or other unforeseen events/incidents. Any changes to the schedule will be communicated to teams as quickly as practicable.

4. CHAMPIONSHIPS FORMAT:

i. Sectional Play (Singles and Pairs)

4.1. Singles and pairs shall be conducted using sectional play. Sections should be kept to four players/teams where possible. Section winners shall be determined according to Bowls Australia By-Laws. Any changes made to this format are subject to the approval by the controlling body.

4.2. For one section;

- The winner is the gold medallist, the runner-up is the silver medallist, and third place is the bronze medallist. If time permits, a final may be played, where one plays two for gold and silver, three plays four for bronze. Any changes made are subject to the approval by the controlling body.

4.3. For two sections:

- Semi finals shall be conducted
- The winner of section one will play the runner-up of section two.
- The winner of section two will play the runner-up of section one
- The winners shall play each other for the gold and silver medals, the losers will play each other for the bronze medal.

4.4. For three sections:

- Semi finals shall be conducted
- The three section winners shall be joined by the highest runner up.
- Section one plays section two, section three plays the highest runner up. In the event of a section three player being the highest runner up, section one plays section three, section two plays highest runner up.
- The winners shall play each other for the gold and silver medals, the losers shall play each other for the bronze medal.

4.5. For four sections:

- Semi finals shall be conducted
- The four section winners shall play off as:
 - Section one versus section two and
 - Section three versus section four
- The winners of each match play each other for the gold and silver medals, the losers play each other for the bronze medal.

4.6. Quarter Finals shall only be conducted if there are five or more sections and if time permits when there are sections with six or more players/teams. In the event of inclement weather or other disruptions, quarter finals will not be played unless there are five or more sections.

4.7. When there are four competitors/teams for an event, gold and silver medals will be awarded. Where there are five or more competitors for an event, gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded.

4.8. There is no restriction for the use of wheelchair pushers between ends providing the pusher does not attempt to provide coaching or offer competitive/technical advice.

4.9. Should a bowler's circumstances change during the course of the event, whereby they need the use of a wheelchair or other device, permission must be sought from the Controlling Body or its representatives.

4.10. Play will start not later than the time indicated on the draw. A period of grace of not more than 10 minutes will be allowed, unless prior notice is given with reasons acceptable to the Tournament Official at the venue of play.

4.11. One trial end in each direction shall be allowed with the number of bowls used in the game. Trial ends must be completed prior to the scheduled start time of each game. See section for time limit rules.

4.12. In the case of a bye a bowler may practice on any rink that is available except for the one he/she is to play on next.

4.13. Dead ends will be replayed.

5. CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS:

5.1. The events to be conducted at the National Championships are:

- a) B5/B6 Women's Singles (minimum of 4 competitors required); in the event of there being insufficient numbers for these competitions, B5-B8 Ladies Singles will be played.

- b) B7/B8 Women's Singles (minimum of 4 competitors required); in the event of there being insufficient numbers for these competitions, B5-B8 Ladies Singles will be played.
 - c) B5/B6 Men's Singles (minimum of 4 competitors required); in the event of there being insufficient numbers for these competitions, B5-B8 Men's Singles will be played.
 - d) B7/B8 Men's Singles (minimum of 4 competitors required); in the event of there being insufficient numbers for these competitions, B5-B8 Men's Singles will be played.
 - e) B5-B8 Women's Pairs (minimum of 4 teams required); in the event of there being insufficient numbers for these competitions, the women shall play in Open Pairs. (See 5.2 for reference).
 - f) B5/B6 Men's Pairs (minimum of 4 teams required); in the event of there being insufficient numbers for these competitions, B5-B8 Men's Pairs will be played.
 - g) B7/B8 Men's Pairs (minimum of 4 teams required); in the event of there being insufficient numbers for these competitions, B5-B8 Men's Pairs will be played.
 - h) Open (cosmopolitan/ mixed) Triples (minimum of 4 teams required); teams must include at least one B5 or B6 competitor.
- 5.2. In the first instance, ladies pairs should be entered before open (cosmopolitan or mixed) pairs. If three or less entries are received in the ladies pairs, mixed pairs may be entered in the open pairs' competition. In this instance, sides entering ladies into open pairs will be permitted to split the ladies pairs to form mixed pairs.
- 5.3. States are restricted to six men and four ladies. There should be equal numbers of 5/6 and 7/8 players where possible for the draw to work evenly. Substitutes will only be permitted subject to approval by the controlling body.
- 5.4. The Singles Events shall be completed when the first player reaches 21 shots. Four bowls shall be used. However there will be a time limit imposed of 2 hours and 30 minutes. See section on time limit rules.
- 5.5. The Pairs Events shall be limited to 15 ends with each player having three bowls. However there will be a time limit imposed of 2 hours and 30 minutes. See section on time limit rules.

- 5.6. The Triples Event shall consist of 18 ends with each player having two bowls. However there will be a time limit imposed of 2 hours and 30 minutes. See section on time limit rules.
- 5.7. Each state or territory must seed their players. Seedings shall be used in preparation of the National Championship draw including allocation of players into sections.
- 5.8. At each National Championship, the Clover Lester Encouragement Award and the Graham Golley International Bowler of the Year Award may be presented.

6. **TIME LIMITS**

- 6.1. As matches are subject to time limits a bell (or siren) will be sounded:
 - to indicate the commencement of play, and then again
 - to indicate the end of the time limit.
- 6.2. Trial ends will not form part of the time limit. Trial ends must be completed prior to the scheduled start time.
- 6.3. When the bell rings to indicate the end of the time limit any end which is in progress shall be completed. If this end is killed it shall, like any other dead end, be replayed.
- 6.4. An end commences with the delivery of the jack (from a correctly laid mat), regardless of whether or not the jack comes to rest within the confines of the rink.
- 6.5. No player/director may leave the green during the 20 minutes prior to the end of the time limit in an uncompleted game.
- 6.6. Slow play shall be discouraged at all times. (For example, the jack should be delivered before sorting out player's bowls onto the correct side of the rink.)

7. **INTERSTATE TROPHY POINTS**

- 7.1. 7.1 The Interstate Trophy is calculated by awarding points to:
 - the finishing positions in each section of each event
 - the medallists in each event. Where finals are not played, further points will not be awarded to medallists.
- 7.2. Points will be awarded as follows:

1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
15 points	10 points	5 points



- 7.3. The total points score for each State will be divided by the number of players representing the State and the State with the highest weighted average points will be presented with the Interstate Trophy.
- 7.4. If substitutes are permitted by the controlling body, the points scored will be awarded to the State that the player has substituted for.

8. CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 8.1. Committee members must advise the DSA office of dates of national and invitational events (both national and international) and receive sanction before publicising the event. Committee members must also advise the DSA office of dates and details of state titles.
- 8.2. DSA will maintain a calendar of events and shall ensure states and territories are informed of significant dates.

