



Officiating & Laws Committee Terms of Reference

Committee Objective:

- Ensure that the Bowls Australia (BA) National Officiating Accreditation Scheme (NOAS) is expertly presented, planned, and delivered according to the BA Presenter/Facilitator Guide, Marker, Measurer and National Umpire (2015) in conjunction with Bowls Victoria Staff.
- Maintain and increase number of officials within the sport.
- Liaise with Bowls Victoria and identify and appoint umpires to adjudicate Bowls Victoria's State Events.
- Review Conditions of Play (Pennant & State Championships) annually and provide advice to Bowls Victoria's Staff.
- Liaise, provide advice and suggest updates to Bowls Victoria Staff regarding policies and procedures associated with the playing and management of the game in Victoria.
- Coordinate recommendations to the Bowls Australia National Officiating Advisory Group on proposed changes or amendments to the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

Membership of the Officiating & Laws Committee:

- The Bowls Victoria Officiating & Laws Committee shall consist of no more than 7 members.
- The Chair of the Officiating & Laws Committee shall be appointed by the Bowls Victoria Board.
- Members should have a sound knowledge of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, Bowls Australia Domestic Regulations & Officiating Procedures.

Operating Principles:

- The Officiating & Laws Committee meetings are held as determined by the Chair either face-to-face or online.
- The Committee communicates frequently via e-mail.
- The Committee will have Chair appointed by the Bowls Victoria Board.
- The Chair are required to submit minutes for the Bowls Victoria Board and provide a submission for the Bowls Victoria annual report.
- Unexplained non-attendance at three consecutive meetings results in termination of place on the committee.

- To ensure that the Committee has the best interests of all bowlers in mind when making decisions or recommendations, the committee should not be influenced or biased by personal involvement.
- Honour the confidentiality of the Officiating & Laws Committee deliberations and decision making, and not post any confidential information relating to the Officiating & Laws on social media (in conjunction with Bowls Victoria's Social Media Policy).

Responsibilities of the Officiating & Laws Committee:

- Review, update with the Bowls Victoria Staff, key documentation relating to Laws and Rules including Conditions of Play for both State Events & Pennant.
- Provide advice on Officiating & Laws to Bowls Victoria, Regions & Clubs through Bowls Victoria's Communication Channels and educate and inform umpires, measurers and markers through these channels.
- Maintain an updated list of Region Umpiring Contacts.
- To draft and submit to Bowls Australia any suggested changes/amendments to the Laws of the Sport of Bowls;
- To be the Committee responsible for the interpretation of all Laws and Rules as they relate to Bowls Victoria events and competitions.
- Make recommendations to the Bowls Victoria Staff in relation to planning of Umpire Education.
- The Chair of the committee will select a team of competent umpires and markers for Bowls Victoria major events.
- Ensure that all Region Umpire committees have access to NOAS for officiating, including paperwork, forms, course outlines, assessor and facilitators and training manuals.
- Liaise with Region umpire committees to ensure that officials and future officials are educated in the interpretation of the laws and rules of the sport of bowls.
- To be responsible for implementing Bowls Australia officiating programs, procedures for accreditation and reaccreditation of umpires, measurers, and markers.
- To offer and provide, quality umpire seminars and workshops. This includes developing and the assessment of umpiring, marking, and measuring competencies and keeping them up to date with current information
- To liaise closely with BA and the National Officials Advisory Group (NOAG) on matters related to officiating and appropriate training of the National Officiating Scheme.
- To ensure the presentation of all NOAS courses are delivered by accredited assessor and facilitators.
- To assess the delivery of the NOAS to ensure consistency across Victoria.
- To inform the Board of any issues or significant changes from NOAG that will impact on officiating in Victoria.
- To maintain and enhance knowledge and expertise of committee members regarding officiating and the delivery of programs through ongoing professional development.
- Provide advice when required to other Bowls Victoria Staff and Committees)

Next Review Date:

July 2024