

## 2024 VICTORIAN INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS - CONDITIONS OF PLAY

<b>Controlling Body</b>	Bowls Victoria
<b>Event</b>	<b>2024 Victorian Indoor Championships</b>
<b>Dates</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> June – 27 <sup>th</sup> July
<b>Venue</b>	Venues as determined by the Controlling Body.

### 1. Entry Conditions

Open to all bowlers affiliated with Bowls Victoria.

- 1.1 **Entries** The Controlling Body at its sole discretion may exclude entries.
- 1.2 **Late entries** The Controlling Body at its sole discretion may include late entries. either before or after the draw has been published. If required late entries will be included in the order received.

### 2. Eligibility

As a condition of entry, all competitors must:

- 2.1 Not currently be under disqualification or suspension by their club or Bowls Victoria.
- 2.2 Comply with all applicable Laws of the Sport of Bowls, Crystal Mark 4th Edition, (including domestic regulations for Australia), April 2023, BA Domestic Regulations, and policies of Bowls Australia & Bowls Victoria

### 3. Event Format

- 3.1 **Four bowls** per player.
- 3.2 **Sectional play**, three (3) players per Section.
- 3.3 **Sets Play** as per Law 56 – **2 sets of 9 ends with a 3-end tie-break if required.**
- 3.4 **Jack re-spotted** in accordance with Law 56.5.3.
- 3.5 **One trial end in each direction** prior to the commencement of each game.
- 3.6 Players will mark matches in their own section where not drawn to play.
- 3.7 Any player/team arriving after the official start time shall lose the right to play trial ends. Any player/team not ready to commence play within 15 minutes of the official starting time shall forfeit the game. This determination will be made by the Tournament Director on the recommendation of the umpire in control of the match.
- 3.8 Matches will be conducted on indoor surfaces.

#### 4. Qualifying for Victorian Indoor Finals and Australian Indoor Championships:

##### For the 2024 Event:

- 4.1. Eleven (11) Men, as determined by Bowls Victoria, after sectional and knockout play will qualify for the Victorian Indoor finals series and be Victoria's representatives for the Australian Indoor.
- 4.2. Eleven (11) Women, as determined by Bowls Victoria, after sectional and knockout play will qualify for the Victorian Indoor finals series and be Victoria's representatives for the Australian Indoor
- 4.3. If any Victorian's are current holders of the National Australian Indoor title, they will be allowed entry into the Victorian Indoor Finals Series.

#### 5. Sectional Play

- 5.1. Game points will be awarded as follows:

**Win** – 3 points

**Tie** – 1 point.

**Loss** – no points

**Bye** – no points - note if a player/team withdraws from a section prior to commencement of play in round 1 it will be treated a bye.

**Forfeit** – 3 points & net total shots equal to the average net shots scored by the winners of the other games played in all sections in the same round at the same venue.

- 5.2. The winner of the section will be the player/team with the most game points. If game points are equal, they will be ranked by:
  - 5.2.1. Highest net total shots (shots for minus shots against).
  - 5.2.2. If net total shots are equal, then the total shots for will be divided by the total shots against to calculate a percentage.
  - 5.2.3. The side with the highest percentage will be ranked higher (law 27.4).
  - 5.2.4. If the percentage is equal, then the player or team that won the game between the player or team that are equal will be the winner of the section.
- 5.3. In Singles sectional play, the non-playing member of the section will act as \*marker for the section game in which they are not playing.
  - a) It is mandatory that all Singles entrants mark all games required in their section irrespective of the outcome or round results in the respective section.
  - b) Players when marking are required to be present a minimum of 30 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time and be in attendance at the venue until the completion of Round 3 – players who do not fulfil their requirement may face disqualification and exclusion from future BV championships & events, a fine or other sanction.

5.5. The fixture for Singles sectional play will be:

Round 1	Player 1 v Player 2	Player 3 marks the game
Round 2	Loser R1 v Player 3	Winner R1 marks the game
Round 3	Winner R1 v Player 3	Loser R1 marks this game

## 6 Commencement times of games

All competitors must arrive at the venue at least 30 minutes prior to the start time, with trial ends commencing 15 minutes before the commencement time of games.

## 7 Trial ends

- 7.1 One trial end in each direction using the number of bowls to be used in the game for both Sectional and Knockout rounds.
- 7.2 Trial ends must be completed prior to the official start time of each game. Any players arriving late, as per clause 3.5, shall forfeit the right to trial ends.
- 7.3 The venue manager will signal when the trial ends may commence.

## 8 Delaying play

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 the delivery of the player's bowl:

- 8.1 On the first occasion the umpire will warn the player.
- 8.2 If the player commits the same offence a second time the end will be regarded as complete and the opponents of the offending player/team will score as many shots as there are bowls in use by such opponent(s).
- 8.3 If the player offends a third time the game will be forfeited to the opponent(s).

## 9 Restricting movement of players during play

After delivering their first bowl, players will only be allowed to walk up to the head under the following circumstances.

- 9.6 Singles game: after delivery of their third and fourth bowls.
- 9.7 Pairs game (each player playing three bowls)
  - The Leads: after delivery of their third bowl; and
  - The Skips: after delivery of their second and third bowls.
- 9.8 At the start of each end, the lead will be at the mat end and on changeovers the Skips (in Pairs) will move to the mat end together.
- 9.9 In exceptional and limited circumstances, a skip can ask that a player walks up to the head, or a player to the marker in singles, earlier than described above. If a player does not meet these requirements, then Law 13 will apply.

## **10 Substitute / Replacement players.**

10.1 A substitute or replacement player is not permitted for a singles player.

## **11 Leaving the venue.**

Players must not leave the venue without consulting with the venue manager and/or the controlling body. Players who do not fulfil this requirement may face disqualification and exclusion from future BV championships & events, a fine or other sanction.

## **12 Player conduct & behaviour.**

All players are required to conduct themselves in a polite and sportsman-like manner when participating in the Victorian Indoor Championships, and must not:

- 12.1 act in an abusive, threatening, or intimidating manner;
- 12.2 use obscene, offensive, abusive, threatening, or intimidating language;
- 12.3 act in an unsportsmanlike manner;
- 12.4 threaten any person with physical violence or assault;
- 12.5 assault any person;
- 12.6 act in a manner likely to bring the sport of bowls into disrepute; or
- 12.7 act in a manner likely to bring Bowls Victoria into disrepute.

12.8 A failure to comply can result in the Umpire applying an Instantaneous Penalty.

## **13 Instantaneous penalties.**

- 13.1 If an Umpire, by observation or on an appeal by the Controlling Body, a Skip or an opponent in singles decides that a player is non-compliant then the end shall be immediately regarded as completed and the opponent of the offender shall be awarded as many shots as there are bowls in use by the opponent(s).
- 13.2 If the Umpire forms the opinion on a second occasion that the same player is non-compliant, the player will be excluded from taking any further part in the game. A substitute will not be permitted, and the defaulting player/team will forfeit the game.
- 13.3 An instantaneous penalty applied to one player in a Team shall be considered as an instantaneous penalty to all players in that Team.
- 13.4 Any of the above Umpire imposed sanctions are final and cannot be contested, disregarded or appealed.
- 13.5 The Umpire shall also forward a written report about the incident to the Controlling Body within seven (7) days of the incident.

## **14 Footwear and attire.**

14.1 Players must wear flat soled rubber heelless soles footwear. Thongs are not permitted (excluding the "OOFOS OOriginal Thong" - specifically by make/model). (excluding the "OOFOS OOriginal Thong" - specifically by make/model).

14.2 All attire must comply with Bowls Australia National Merchandise Program (NMP) Logo Policy as it relates to upper and lower body attire. The NMP Logo must appear on the front or side of all headwear, except on hats with a hat band, where a logo is not required.

14.3 Failure to adhere to the BA logo policy will result in the offending player being given a verbal warning by the convening umpire which will be lodged and recorded with the tournament director. The offending player will then be provided up until the forfeit time of their subsequent game to comply with the BA logo policy. Failure to comply will result in the offending player being disqualified and the game forfeited to their opponent.

## **15 Prize Money**

Distribution of prize money will be published on the Bowls Victoria website – [Victorian Indoor](#). Any player or team that is disqualified or forfeits a prize money round is ineligible to receive their prize money.

## **16 Jury of appeal.**

16.1 A jury of appeal shall be appointed for the purpose of deciding upon any matters not provided for in the Conditions of Play or dealing with appeals resulting from decisions made by umpires.

16.2 Any appeal against a decision made by an official relating to a Law, Domestic Regulation or Conditions of Play may be referred to the Tournament Director in the first instance before being referred to the Jury of Appeal. The Jury of Appeal shall consist of:

- BV Chief Executive or their nominee;
- BV Events Manager or their nominee;
- BV Officiating & Laws Committee Chair or their nominee;

## **17 Other laws, regulations & policies.**

All laws, regulations & policies other than stated above shall conform to the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, Crystal Mark 4th Edition, (including domestic regulations for Australia), April 2023 and BA Domestic Regulations (located at [bowls.com.au](http://bowls.com.au)).

## **18 Media, Photography, Video and Live Streaming.**

Bowls Victoria reserves the right to use any photographs or video taken during this event for promotional requirements. Some matches will be broadcasted through Bowls Victoria's various communication channels and at the discretion of the controlling body. All media requests are to be directed to Bowls Victoria's Communications & Marketing Manager in the first instance.

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