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BOWLS RIVERLAND BY-LAWS & CONDITIONS OF PLAY

1. All pennant matches shall be under the control of the Association. All pennant matches, club tournaments and Association competitions shall be conducted in accordance with these rules, the rules of Bowls SA and conform to the Bowls SA Constitution, By-Laws, Policies and the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.
2. All pennant matches shall commence at the time set for each competition by the association including any trial roll-ups. Should a club side fail to appear by 30 minutes after the scheduled starting time the match shall be awarded to the side ready to play at the discretion of the Board's Disputes subcommittee.
3. The position of play of the respective teams shall be decided by unbiased drawing of cards.
4. Home clubs shall appoint accredited umpires for all pennant matches and for all Association fixtures. Emergency procedure: If no qualified umpire is present, the two team managers, or persons delegated to the job on the day, shall appoint a suitable person prior to play commencing, and that person's rulings shall be abided by.
5. Scoring for competitions shall be 20 points for a win, 10 points for a draw and 2 points for each team win and 1 point for a drawn team.
6. **FORFEITS / BYES**

Any pennant side forfeiting shall notify both the **Association Secretary and the other Club's Secretary or relevant Team Manager** as early as possible before the set day of play. The non-forfeiting side in any division shall receive the maximum available match points, plus be credited with 20 shots for. The forfeiting side shall receive nil match points.

 - 6.1. All Sides who receive a **Forfeit** must ensure that player's names for that side are recorded on the Bowlslink results portal, and the forfeiting side needs to verify the forfeit.
 - 6.2. Should a Member Club find it necessary to forfeit the same side on three consecutive occasions or on five occasions in total, that side will be withdrawn from the competition and the side replaced with a Bye.
 - 6.3. All Sides who receive a **Bye** must ensure that player's names for that side are recorded on the Bowlslink results portal, prior to points being allocated.
7. All sides with a bye shall receive half of the maximum points for all bye rounds including odd round byes.
8. No practice shall take place on a green allocated for pennant play within 30 minutes of the scheduled starting time.
9. **PLAYER QUALIFICATION AND PERMITS:**
 - 9.1. All applications for permits shall be forwarded by club or facility secretaries to the Association Secretary, for the relevant match and programme subcommittee to deal with all matters relating to permits.
 - 9.2. Prior to the conclusion of **round 15** there shall be no restrictions on the movement of players within the sides of the club in any competition.

A player who has not played a minimum of four (4) games in a lower side shall **not** be eligible to play in any lower side after **round 15**.

Should a player play in a division in **round 15** they are eligible to remain in that division even if they have not played four (4) games, but if subsequently promoted to a higher side they will not be able to return to the lower side except as described in Exception: 1

A player from a side with a **bye** shall **not** be eligible to play in any **lower division** side in that round, except if Subject to exception 1.

Exception: 1 A player promoted to a higher division side for one match only, may then return to that lower division side in which the player had last played.

- 9.3. Any club with 2 sides in a division must qualify players for each side with the required minimum number of games (4) to be eligible to move to the other side in the same division after round 15.

9.4. TO QUALIFY TO PLAY IN FINALS

A player must have played a minimum of Three (3) games in the relevant **Pennant competition** for their club in the current season.

- 9.5. If any club has multiple sides in finals, any player qualified or not, can move down one (1) division or to another side in the same division providing both sides are playing at the same time.

Players from a side that has been eliminated during finals, cannot move down or across to any side in the same division, however any qualified player (Re Bylaw 9.4) may go up to a higher side regardless if they played in Finals or not.

- 9.6. Any unqualified player, who through no fault of the player or the club has played less than Three (3) games (Re Bylaw 9.4), shall be eligible to obtain a permit to play in finals. Such a permit would only be issued to the player to play in the Side they last played in.
- 9.7. The playing of an unqualified player or player requiring a permit without the approval of the Relevant Match and Program Committee shall be penalised by the disqualification of the side for that match with points awarded as set out in By-Law 6. Match disqualification will also apply to all Finals.

10. TEMPORARY PLAYERS & PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- 10.1. Where there are insufficient bowlers to field a side, that club may play a non-registrant which allows them to play a maximum of three (3) games, to play any further Matches they need to be registered to Bowls SA.
- 10.2. All players who are available for selection shall be selected on merit and compatibility, as determined by their club selectors.
- 10.3. Two players either as Leads or Seconds only, if necessary may share a position in the lowest division of the club. Each player must be recorded on the team score cards, one as a substitute, and must play a minimum of 10 consecutive ends.

EXEMPTION – Wednesday Ladies Pennant Division 2

Two players who share a game (**Ladies only**) may play the entire game by staying at

opposite ends of the green but must only use the same two bowls. (as Leads or Seconds only)

Should one of these players need to retire from the game the first option is can the remaining player play out the game on their own, if not can they find a Sub, failing that the Team plays 2 bowls short missing the number two spot as per the laws of the game.

10.4. No Lady who played in Division 1 Saturday Pennant competition shall be eligible to play in the following round of Division 2 Wednesday Ladies competition.

10.5. Any male player playing in the Wednesday Ladies Pennant competition shall only play as a Lead, with no more than 1 male per Team. Refer to By-Law 17.1.2

11. GENERAL

11.1. No member club shall conduct any open tournament commencing before 4.00pm without prior permission of the Board. The member club shall apply in writing for permission and set out there-in the nature of, and dates of, the proposed tournament.

11.2. All sides are to comply with the Bowls Australia logo policy and the Bowls SA Uniform Policy. A clubs lowest side will have clothing code tolerance for first year players only; however, appropriate footwear must be worn.

11.3. Member club secretaries shall send to the Association Secretary a list in alphabetical order of all registered players together with the registration fees prior to the scheduled date of the first pennant round.

11.4. The Match & Program Committee have the right to alter or approve playing times for all competitions to achieve a game result wherever possible.

Alternate start and completion times for Divisions in all competitions may be approved by the Match and Program Committee upon request of both competing clubs.

11.5. Greens are to remain dressed until all Matches have finished, with nothing being removed including score boards until the last bowl in all rinks on that Green has been played.

11.6. Any club(s) side(s) found guilty of Breaches of the By-Laws of the Association shall be disqualified for that round and points awarded as per By-Law 6 unless both clubs are at fault where no points will be awarded to either side for that round.

12. MISCONDUCT

The Board shall have the power to deal with any misconduct in accordance with the Bowls Riverland Rules and Regulations and the Bowls SA Constitution, By-Laws and Policies.

13. CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS - (C OF C)

The clubs of the Association shall conduct single gender championship events in fours, pairs, singles and (triples in ladies). The Association shall then conduct competitions to determine C of C in accordance with conditions set for each competition. Any replacement or substitutes shall be in accordance with the laws of the game. (Notice of all events will be sent to all clubs prior to the event)

14. FINALS

14.1. All competition finals to be played in a format as determined by the club delegates.

14.2. Venues for Finals, Association Matches, and C of C play-offs.

Should the Board believe a designated green is of an unsatisfactory standard it may convene an inspection of the green in question, using a minimum of three persons to conduct the inspection. Following their recommendation to the Board, it may convene a Board meeting if necessary to resolve the issue including selection of a new venue for the events or matches.

14.3. In all Divisions in all Pennant competitions the side that finishes top at end of the minor round shall have choice of venue for their first final, provided that this choice does not preclude another Club from playing a home final.

14.4. All other finals matches shall be played at neutral venues as selected by the Board or Match and Program Committee.

15. DISPUTES SUB-COMMITTEE

15.1. A Disputes subcommittee of the Association shall normally consist of the Secretary or an appointed substitute plus any two Association members, not necessarily Board members.

15.2. In the event of a club successfully protesting against another club, all points shall be awarded as per By-Law 6.

16. MATCH RESULTS - BowlsLink

Results must be entered by the Home side by 7.30pm for PM matches and 2.30pm for AM matches on the day of play. The Away side should try to confirm the results ASAP.

Forfeits / Byes - The Member Club must ensure that player names for that side are recorded on the online results portal, for the proper allocation of points to be received.

17. COMPETITION CONDITIONS OF PLAY

17.1. Wednesday Ladies Pennants - Fours

17.1.1. Pennant matches to start at **9.00 am (rollup 8.45am)**, 20 ends to be played (subject to By-Law 18.1)

A mid game break may be taken after playing 10 ends, or as arranged by competing team managers to cater for inclement weather. **Refer 19.6 re Break.**

17.1.2. Any male player in this competition shall only play as a Lead, with no more than 1 male per Team.

Male players may only be selected from Division 2 or lower as determined by their last Saturday Pennant Game. Re Penalty 9.7

17.1.3. TEMPERATURE — Refer By-Law 18

17.1.4. INCLEMENT WEATHER — Refer to By-Law 19.

17.2. Saturday Pennants – Fours – Open Gender

- 17.2.1. Start time for Saturday pennant competition shall be **1.30pm (rollup 1.15pm)** or such other time as may be set by the Match & Programme Committee (subject to By-Law 18.1).
A mid-game break may be taken after 11 ends or as arranged by competing team managers to cater for inclement weather. **Refer 19.6 re Break.**
- 17.2.2. A cut off time for play shall be 6.30pm (subject to By-Law 11.4).
- 17.2.3. Saturday pennant competition shall have a voluntary promotion and relegation system in place whereby the highest placed side at the end of the minor round can ask to be promoted which will result in the lowest ranked side from the higher division being demoted except for Division 1 where no demotion will take place until there are 8 sides in that competition.
- 17.2.4. TEMPERATURE — Refer By-Law 18.
- 17.2.5. INCLEMENT WEATHER – Refer to By-Law 19.

17.3. Midweek Triples

- 17.3.1. GAMES — Triples: 4 x 3 bowls, 18 ends, up & back roll-up using 2 Bowls **1.30pm start.**
No Dead ends, Jack to be replaced on centre 2 metre mark.
A mid-game break may be taken after 9 ends or as arranged by competing team managers to cater for inclement weather **Refer 19.6 re Break.**
- 17.3.2. A cut of time for play shall be 6.30pm.
- 17.3.3. TEMPERATURE — Refer By-Law 18
- 17.3.4. INCLEMENT WEATHER – Refer to By-Law 19.
- 17.3.5. PLAYERS — **No more than two 1st Division players are to play in each Team.**
Where more than one 1st Division player is selected in a Team, one of the 1st Division players shall play as a Leader. Player qualification is to be determined by the Division they played in their last Saturday Pennant Match

18. TEMPERATURE – For all Pennants & Association Events

All matches played by Bowls Riverland shall be subject to the temperature rules of the competition including Duty of Care Policy and Statement.

- 18.1. If the temperature forecast for Renmark is for 38° C or over by the Australian Bureau of Meteorology at 5.00 pm two days prior to the relevant day of play, then those matches will commence at 9.00 am (rollup 8.45am).

Wednesday Ladies Pennants early start time shall be **8.30 am** (rollup 8.15am).
Refer early start games 19.6 re Break.
(**Please note** - Start times for Championships may vary re 11.4)
- 18.2. The Umpire will monitor the temperature, and halt play as per By-Law 19.7
(**Please note** - Game Day Temperature readings are to be taken from the supplied Thermometers placed in the Temperature Boxes, and to be situated as near as possible to the actual playing surface(s)).

18.3. Saturday Pennants Finals

In the event the forecast two days prior is for 38° C or over the commencement time shall be 8.30am (Roll-up 8.15am) **Refer By-Law 11.4.**

19. INCLEMENT WEATHER:

19.1. Prior to the commencement of play the host club's greens manager or their deputy shall decide if a green should close due to inclement weather.

19.2. The greens' manager or their deputy shall notify the Association Board Secretary and their opponent club as early as possible prior to the start of play if the greens are unplayable or closed. Club secretaries to be advised as soon as possible. Should conditions deteriorate after play has commenced, either side's manager may appeal to the umpire to stop play (for that side's match only). The umpire in consultation with the greens manager or their deputy if present shall consider the appeal and is empowered to stop play, as well as give permission for play to resume if conditions improve. Play will be cancelled for the day if it is not possible to resume after 30 minutes from the time of the last stoppage.

19.3. Should the Bureau of Meteorology forecast conditions as "CATASTROPHIC" then all matches will be cancelled.

19.4. If all pennant matches of the Association are cancelled by Bowls Riverland prior to commencement on any one day, i.e. due to the forecast of Catastrophic conditions or the round is deemed unviable, no catch-up matches shall be played. However, half of the maximum points shall be allocated to all sides for this round including any side with a bye.

19.5. Saturday and Wednesday Ladies Pennants and Midweek Triples

In a round, where the programmed matches achieve a result with an aggregate of two thirds of the ends played, then the results of these matches will stand. All other incomplete Games to be deemed a Draw and teams to each receive half of the maximum points with no shots up or down to be allocated.

19.6. Early Start Games - Mid-Game Break

The preferred option would be to play till the minimum number of ends has been played to achieve a result before stopping for a break, if needed. Both Team Managers must agree to either option and are advised to be mindful of their duty of care.

19.7. After commencement of any match when the temperature reaches 38° C or over the umpire shall halt play at completion of any end in play. Any end that is subsequently declared dead shall not be replayed.

All Matches shall be played to their maximum allocated number of ends or until the cut off temperature is reached whichever occurs first.

Please note - This applies for all competitions and associated events.

19.8. **DELAYED START-** In all competitions should commencement of play be delayed by inclement weather by a minimum of 30 minutes the match shall be abandoned.

20. PLAYER SAFETY – Duty of Care

Any player who considers that the forecast temperature of the day on which they have been selected to represent their club will have an adverse effect on their health, safety and well-being can withdraw from the selected side without penalty. Such withdrawal may also occur during the course of play where the heat temperature is at a level that the player considers places them at risk. (Rule 51 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls shall apply).

21. MINIMUM NUMBER OF ENDS TO CONSTITUTE A GAME:

SATURDAY PENNANTS

Division 1 - 42 ends

Division 2 - 42 ends

Division 3 - 42 ends

Division 4 - 28 ends

WEDNESDAY LADIES PENNANTS - FOURS

Division 1 - 40 ends

Division 2 - 26 ends

WEDNESDAY PM TRIPLES - 48 ends

TEMPERATURE CHART for SEASON 2026-27

<u>Event</u>	<u>Forecast Temperatures for Renmark</u>	<u>Games Underway</u>
WED PENNANTS AM	<u>Monday 5PM</u> 38°C or over : 8.30am Start	Play stops at 38°C
WED TRIPLES	<u>Monday 5PM</u> 38°C or over : 9am Start	Play stops at 38°C
SAT PENNANTS	<u>Thursday 5PM</u> 38°C or over : 9am Start	Play stops at 38°C
SAT PENNANTS FINALS	<u>Two days prior 5PM</u> 38°C or over : 8.30am Start	Play stops at 38°C

The official BOM Web page is updated twice daily and the afternoon reading at 5pm is the official one used for our Heat Rulings