

# PENNANT RULES AND CONDITIONS OF PLAY - 2024

## GENERAL INFORMATION

it is a condition of entry for this event that players are familiar with and accept these conditions of play.

### CODE

BEA Beaudesert  
BEE Beenleigh  
BEN Benowa  
BRO Broadbeach  
BUR Burleigh Heads  
CAN Canungra  
COO Coolangatta  
GCL Gold Coast Lawn  
HEL Helensvale  
MCK McKenzie Park-Nerang

### CODE

MER Mermaid Beach  
MUD Mudgeeraba  
MUS Musgrave Hill  
PAR Paradise Point  
ROB Robina  
SOU Southport  
TAM Tamborine Mtn  
TWE Tweed Heads  
TUG Tugun  
WOO Woongoolba

BGCT Bowls Gold Coast-Tweed  
GCTDLBA Gold Coast-Tweed District Ladies Bowls Association  
DBA District Bowls Association  
BA Bowls Australia  
Match Committee Match Committee of the Association

On the Draw Sheet, the first mentioned side is always the 'home side'.

All sectional and post sectional matches shall be of 21 ends duration on each rink.

Note: All post sectional and finals matches of 63 ends are required to be played and dead ends to be replayed.

## Saturday and or Sunday - FINALS

Clubs must have rinks ready for play and available for trial ends no later than 8:30am/12:00pm. Play to commence at 9:00am/1.00pm. Side Managers should ensure these conditions are carried out.

Side Managers to enter results to **BowlsLink** immediately following completion of games.

Pennant results sheets (supplied by BGCT) must be kept by both Clubs until the end of the Competition in case of any disputes that may arise.

## ASSOCIATION OFFICE:

EMAIL: [admin@gctbowls.org.au](mailto:admin@gctbowls.org.au)

## MATCH COMMITTEE:

Peter Bryan (Chair) 0409 905 021

Other Contacts - President:  
Operations Manager:

**Brian Marshall**  
**Robbie Allan**

**0417 200 803**  
**0402 144 870**

**PLEASE NOTE: Results sheets to be completed with legible writing and correct spelling of players Christian and Surnames (No nicknames) by BOTH Clubs.**

Players, side managers and officials are advised to acquaint themselves with the Pennant 'Rules and Conditions for Play' as penalties can apply.

## 1. **AUTHORITY**

- (a) The playing of all pennant games shall be in the charge of BGCT and the Match Committee – the Controlling Body. The controlling body shall have the power to enquire into and adjudicate decisions, in the event of a dispute or problem, to make, alter or add to the conditions it deems necessary, under all circumstances and its decision shall be final.
- (b) Infringement of the conditions by a club or player/s, could invoke disqualification (player), loss of points or game (club) or game replay, as is determined by the Match Committee.
- (c) Under normal circumstances, following the making of the draw, no other fixture shall interfere with or interrupt the pennant competition, unless approved by the Match Committee.

## 2. **LAWS**

All competitions will be conducted under the Laws of the Sport of Bowls Crystal Mark 4th Edition, Domestic Regulations 2023 and these Rules and Conditions of Play.

## 3. **DIVISION and SECTIONAL STRUCTURE**

- (a) The number of Divisions and Sub-Divisions will be as determined by the Match Committee, but shall initially be:  
Division 1, Division 2, Division 3, Division 4, Division 5 Green, Division 5 Brown, Division 6 Gold, Division 6 Maroon, Division 7 Orange and Division 7 Purple.
- (b) All Divisions – Each side shall consist of three (3) rinks of four (4) players and a non-playing or playing Manager (preferably non-playing). The Match Committee may vary the structure of lowest division as necessary.
- (c) No club shall have more than one side in any division, with exception of Divisions 5, 6 and 7, where they may have two (2) sides. All divisions shall be determined by the Match Committee.
- (d) If or when it becomes necessary to allow a second side from the same club in the same Division, then that side shall be identified appropriately. The Match Committee shall determine these placings and eligibility of players.

## 4. **SECTIONAL PLAY**

- (a) Division One will consist of 6 sides playing a home and away series (10 games). Double-Headers will be required during the Competition.
- (b) Divisions 2 to 6 will consist of 8 sides playing 7 rounds.
- (c) Division 7 will consist of 10 sides playing 7 rounds.
- (d) Matches to consist of 21 ends.
- (e) **If Clubs need to play at different times, it must be by mutual agreement with the opposition and commencement of play shall be no earlier than 9:00am. If no agreement can be reached, play will be 1:00pm Saturday.**

## 5. **DIVISIONAL SCORING IN SECTIONAL PLAY** (Law 27)

- (a) The side scoring the greatest number of shots in each match at the end of play shall be the winner. A maximum of 16 total points shall apply in sectional games.
- (b) Ten (10) points shall be awarded for a side win.
- (c) In the event of a tied score, each side shall be awarded five (5) points.
- (d) Two (2) points for each rink win and one (1) point for each rink tie shall be awarded
- (e) Total points shall be recorded together with shots for and against and the margin. Result sheets to show total shots scored by each side.
- (f) Pennant Ladder Calculation
  - (i) The side scoring the greatest number of points shall be declared the winner.
  - (ii) In the event of two (2) or more sides scoring equal total points, the side scoring the highest net margin of shots will be declared the winner.
  - (iii) In the event two (2) or more sides are still equal, the controlling body will divide the total shots scored against the side into the total of shots it has scored. The side with the highest result will be declared the winner. If these proportions are equal the best performed side in the game/games between these sides shall be the winner.

## 6. **DETERMINING WINNERS**

- (a) The side scoring the highest number of points shall be declared the winner.
- (b) In the event of two (2) or more sides scoring an equal number of points, the side with the highest difference between 'total shots for' and 'total shots against' (margin) shall be declared the winner.
- (c) If there is still equality, 'the total shots against' each side shall be divided into the 'total shots for' each side. The team with the highest proportion shall be declared the winner.

7. **FINALS PLAY** (Semi Final – Grand Final)

(a) The finals games for all divisions shall be played following the completion of sectional play. The consideration of host clubs for pennant finals will be dependent on best available greens, club facilities, meals, available umpires, parking and spectator facilities.

(b) **Division One**

Saturday - Semi Final	1:00pm	Sectional R/Up plays Sectional 3rd placed team
Sunday - Grand Final	1:00pm	Winner Sat Game plays <u>Minor Premiers</u>

**Divisions Two to Seven**

Saturday - Semi Finals	9:00am	[Game 1] 1 vs 2 (winner to grand final)
	9:00am	[Game 2] 3 vs 4 (winner plays loser game 1)
	1:00pm	[Game 3] loser game 1 vs winner game 2
Sunday - Grand Finals	9:00am/1:00pm	Winner game 1 vs Winner game 3

- (c) The side scoring the greatest number of total shots shall be declared the winner.
- (d) In the event of the scores being equal at the completion of the post section game (21 ends each team), an extra end or ends shall be played by the sides to reach a decision in which case Law 28 shall apply. All side members shall remain at the venue where the game is in progress until the result is determined by the managers. Failure to observe this condition will invoke a forfeit.
- (e) If inclement weather interrupts any post sectional game it shall be completed at the direction of the Match Committee.
- (f) Eligibility for post sectional play – Semi Finals and Finals
- (i) To be eligible to play in any post sectional game (semi or final) the player must have played a minimum total of **FOUR** (4) sectional games in a division or divisions. (Promotion or demotion of players is subject to Clause 10.)
- (ii) To ensure all selected players are eligible, Clubs are requested to maintain Player game records, which may be asked for at any stage, to reconcile with the BGCT games records.
- Note: When a player is eligible for more than one division semi-final or final, then should they play first in the higher division final they are then ineligible to play in the lower division.

8. **PROMOTION / DEMOTION AND GRADING OF CLUBS**

- (a) In all divisions the lowest placed club is subject to relegation, however promotion and demotion in all divisions is not necessarily automatic but subject to Condition 3 (c).
- (b) All clubs shall be admitted to the Pennant competition subject to grading by the Match Committee. Only a flag winner from the previous season may be eligible for promotion.
- (c) When submitting nominations, clubs must take into consideration the rink space available to host home games. Nominations shall be accepted according to the availability of rinks.

9. **PROMOTION AND DEMOTION OF PLAYERS**

- (a) A player may be elevated to a higher division through the competition at any time without Match Committee permission.
- (b) No player/s having played a total of four (4) games in any higher division or divisions shall be permitted to play in a lower division in subsequent games.
- (c) This is to apply in both sectional and post sectional games.
- (d) A breach of this clause can invoke penalties (refer clause 15), including removal of that team from the Competition.

10. **ELIGIBILITY, INTERCHANGING AND DECLARED PLAYERS**

- (a)(i) All Clubs are responsible for the eligibility of their players competing in the Pennant competition. A list of all intending players must be forwarded to the Match Committee by **SUNDAY 30th JUNE 2024**. Additional names may be added at a later date. Ladies must be affiliated to GCTDLBA and are eligible to play in Division Two and lower.
- (ii) There shall be NO lateral movement of players after Round 5, where a club has two sides in the same division.
- (b) A player must be a financial and declared member of the club as in DBA By-Law 22.1 to be eligible to play Pennant.
- (c) A player having played DBA fixtures in another Association (including interstate or overseas) during the current calendar year and wishing to play Pennant in this Association, shall obtain the written consent of the Match Committee prior to playing Pennant. No Club shall play a player until such consent has been obtained. (Interstate Pennant Declaration is required.)

- (d) No member can play Pennant for more than one (1) Qld club in any calendar year. A player shall ensure compliance with BA policies if they are a member of more than one (1) club.
- (e) Players who are members of more than one (1) club shall declare to play Pennant for a club in this District by 1st January each year.

**11. CHALLENGE TO BOWLS – Laws of the Sport of Bowls 52.4 and DR 4.10 to apply.**

Club games controllers are requested to have appropriate forms available at all times. Should a challenge to bowls take place, the DBA controlling body shall be notified immediately.

**12. PLAYER MOVEMENTS DURING PLAY – Appendix A4.1.7,A4.2**

Note: Players will only be allowed to walk up to the head as follows:

- (a) The leads: after the second player in their team has delivered their second bowl;  
The seconds: after delivery of their second bowl;  
The thirds: after delivery of their second bowl;  
The skips: after delivery of each of their bowls.
- (b) In exceptional and limited circumstances a skip can ask that a player walks up to the head earlier than described in Law A4.2.
- (c) If a player does not meet the terms of this law, Law 13 will apply.
- (d) Delaying play: No player, excluding skips, is permitted to remain at the head whilst their opposite number is delivering their bowl. Any skip that remains at the head shall stand behind the last bowl of the head or retire to the bank. Skips who remain at the head will return to the mat immediately their opponents bowl has come to rest. Penalties will apply for deliberately delaying play as per BA policies.
- (e) Penalty – On the first occasion the umpire shall warn the player. If the player commits the same offence a second time the end will be regarded as completed and the opponents of the offender will score as many shots as there are bowls in use by such an opponent. If the player offends a third time the game will be forfeited to the opponent.

**13. POSITION OF PLAYERS WHEN NOT PLAYING – Law 12**

- (a) Players at the mat end not delivering a bowl should stand a minimum of one (1) metre behind the mat.
- (b) Players at the head end not controlling the head should stand behind the head or on the surrounds of the green if the jack is in the ditch or well clear of the head if it is not possible to stand on the surrounds.  
During the Finals, please comply with all “live streaming” requirements.
- (c) At the start of each end only the skip or deputy will be at the head.

**14. PENALTIES, FORFEITS, BYES**

- (a) Promotion and demotion of players infringement
  - (i) Any infringement of condition 9,10,11,12 and 13 of the Pennant rules will subject the winning side to a loss of points scored for that game plus the loss of six/ten (6/10) points penalty for each offence (even if such action will result in them having negative points). A nil margin will be recorded.
  - (ii) Where the offending side is the losing side a loss of all points scored for that game plus the loss of six/ten (6/10) point penalty for each occasion of the offence (even if such action will result in them having negative points). Their losing margin will be recorded.
- (b) Forfeits – allocation of points – sectional play  
In the event of a forfeit during sectional play or in a game in progress during sectional play, the side receiving the forfeit shall score six/ten (6+10) points, plus the average winning margin for that Round, in that Division. A side responsible for a forfeit shall have nil score recorded.
- (c) Byes
  - (i) When a side withdraws from the pennant competition after the draw has been made, but prior to the commencement of the first round and is not replaced, the games concerned with such withdrawal shall be treated as byes and no points will be awarded. When a side withdraws from the pennant competition AFTER pennant play has commenced all games will be treated as a forfeit, refer **14 (b)**.
  - (ii) If a club withdraws a side from the competition, it shall be the LOWEST division side from that club.

**15. INCOMPLETE SIDE /LATE ARRIVAL**

Should a pennant side be a player short at the commencement of play the vacancy can be filled by -

- (a) The eligible reserve, manager or side captain.
- (b) If an eligible club member is not available an affiliated member may act as a replacement.
- (c) If either (a) or (b) cannot be organised the affected team can play one player short (without the second) DR 2.6 will apply.

If (a), (b) or (c) cannot be organised the game shall be forfeited to the opponents.

Note: Two (2) teams as part of the side cannot play and constitute a game.

**16. SUBSTITUTES /REPLACEMENT PLAYERS – DR 2.1 to 2.4**

Eligible substitutes / replacement players are permitted through the competition.

**Note: The controlling body and umpire must be advised in every circumstance.**

**17. INTERRUPTIONS – PLAY NOT COMMENCED / COMMENCED & OR NOT COMPLETED**

- (a) If inclement weather or any other justifiable cause should prevent the commencement of a round or game the games so affected shall be deferred to a future date, if available, otherwise it will be deemed a draw and the points halved.
- (b) In the event of a game or games being stopped in sectional play and 50 ends or more have been played - points to be awarded on a win-loss basis. If the game or games are stopped and incomplete with less than 50 ends played, then the game shall be replayed at a future date, if available, otherwise the result shall be deemed a draw and points awarded evenly.  
Note: Players must remain at the host venue until play for the day has been officially abandoned by the side managers or Match Committee.
- (c) In the event of inclement weather prevailing, prior to the scheduled starting time, the home club's greens director or the delegated official, shall declare the fitness of the green for play, no later than 11.30am but not before 10.30am. (If weather deteriorates prior to 12.45pm and after 11.30am and greens are declared unfit for play, every effort should be made to contact the visiting club). If due to inclement weather a match is not commenced by 2.30pm it will be abandoned/deferred – ref 17 (a). Note: These times may vary where lengthy travel is involved.
- (d) Appeals due to inclement weather
  - (i) An appeal from the club's delegated official shall affect all rinks of pennant play.
  - (ii) An appeal from the side manager, shall affect only the rinks on which the appealing side plays.
  - (iii) When a game has been stopped by an appeal to the official umpire. Refer to Clause 17(b) and Law 33.
- (e) If inclement weather interrupts a post sectional game it shall be completed at the direction of the Match Committee.

**18. DEATH OF A PLAYER**

If after commencement of any sectional pennant matches, the death of a player occurs at the club all matches in progress at the club will be terminated and - if not less than 50 ends have been completed by the sides, the match will be decided in accordance with the aggregate score at the time of termination but if fewer ends have been played the match will be deemed a draw.

**19. PLAYER CHANGING NOT PERMITTED**

Once the cards have been matched and the player names entered on the result sheet by both managers, the players cannot be changed from one team to another within the side.

**20. EXCESS TRAVEL**

When it is considered there is extensive travelling required between two opponent clubs, then suitable arrangements can be made to commence the game earlier on the scheduled day of play or re-located to a neutral Venue. The Match Committee Chairman shall be advised accordingly.

**21. GREENS**

- (a) Clubs are to make their best greens and rinks available for pennant play. Preferred pace of green 14 to 16.5 seconds. Clubs are required to provide the best green allowable through weather conditions. Play is to be arranged where practicable, in a north and south direction, with a rink space provided between pennant games and any social games.

- (b) The Match Committee retains the right to conduct the event on synthetic, natural or covered greens or any combination thereof.
- (c) Clubs shall have their greens ready and announce the start of the games prior to the scheduled starting time (1pm).
- (d) In the event of greens being unavailable because of damage or considered unfit for play by the home side and after consultation with the DBA Match Committee, the venue can be altered.

## 22. PRACTICE

Players may practice at any time up until the agreed starting time. Home clubs are to make sure the allocated green is available for practice 60 minutes prior to the agreed starting time (commencement no later than 1pm). No Trial Ends required.

## 23. ATTIRE – including approved coloured shirts

- (a) Attire will be as per Bowls Queensland By Law 14.
- (b) All attire must have BA logo as outlined in the BA National logo policy.
- (c) Each player and the manager in a side must be similarly attired (approved club uniform)
- (d) Players using their club's coloured rings (discs) in DBA pennant are allowed to do so providing ALL bowls required are identically marked (Law 52.1.8 & DR4.7)

## 24. MANAGER OF SIDE

- (a) Draw for Rinks  
The draw for rinks and opponents will be made by the opposing managers who will exchange cards and then shuffle them, after which the cards of one side will be placed names downward by one of the managers and the other manager will then place a card on each and the teams will play as drawn and the rink numbers allocated by the home club then added to both sets of cards.
- (b) The manager of the side appointed by their club shall be a registered 'financial' member of the Club registered with the association and shall in each Pennant game attend to the drawing of the cards, rinks and opposing skip, the completion of the Pennant result form and be their Club's representative in all matters concerning the playing of the game subject to the duties of the umpire. Any complaints for misconduct must be lodged within 24 hours and if a complaint for misconduct is reported the complaint will be heard by a panel of BGCT elected officials. Side managers are to ensure that the result sheet contains both the Christian and Surnames, as registered with the association. At the conclusion of the game check and complete the score with the result sheet. The managers should ensure the trial ends (under their control and not the umpire) be completed to allow the game to commence on time. All side managers should ensure the time of arrival allows the completion of their duties.
- (c) The home Club shall provide a master scoreboard and arrange with the side managers for the score to be shown at regular intervals. Rink scoreboards should show the 'home side' on the left or upper section.
- (d) The result sheets (as supplied by BGCT) shall be completed in legible printed format, with results clearly shown. **Result sheets are to be kept by the Managers until the completion of the event in case of any disputes** - In the case of an unfinished game the result sheet must show the score of the game and the number of ends played by each team when the game was stopped. Both side managers shall print and sign their name on the result sheet. Non-playing Managers will be credited with having played that game, for eligibility purposes.
- (e) Alterations – No alteration to a completed form received by BGCT will be permitted unless a correction agreed to in writing by both clubs is lodged within 5 days of the match.
- (f) All cards must be kept in safe custody by the Club secretary until the results of each round have been officially declared by the Match Committee.
- (g) Scorers who are non-members of this Association may be appointed by their Club to act in the capacity of scorer.

## 25. RESERVES

Provided that reserves are in attendance and nominated on the result sheet, for that round, it will count as a game played. The reserve may replace any player who becomes sick or injured during a match but cannot replace the skip. Team must be reshuffled.

**26. COACHING DURING MATCH – Law 44**

Players who intend to receive coaching during a match must inform the umpire of the coach's name prior to the match commencing.

**27. AFTERNOON TEA**

There shall be no afternoon tea break and no afternoon tea supplied on the green.

**28. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

- (a) The date and commencement of the Pennant season shall be determined by the board of Bowls Gold Coast-Tweed.
- (b) The starting time for all sectional Pennant games (trial ends completed) is 1:00pm. In the case of a late arrival of a side or player of a side only 30 minutes grace is allowed, unless special circumstances are agreed to by the Controlling Body.
- (c) The entry fee for each side is \$100, including GST, as determined by the Board.
- (d) (i) Mat fees – sectional play  
No mat fees for visiting Clubs, but host Clubs may charge their own players a nominal fee.  
(ii) Finals play – mat fees of \$8 (including GST) per player per game will be paid to the host club.
- (e) The home club is responsible for the appointment of an accredited umpire who is preferably a non-player. The name shall be announced before play commences. Umpire's duties are defined in Law 43.
- (f) Artificial lighting may be permitted (with the consent of the Match Committee) during sectional games.
- (g) Junior bowlers who are members of an affiliated BGCT or GCTDLBA club are permitted to play Pennant games.
- (h) The games controller at the 'home club' shall act as BGCT representative for the day. They can authorise the appointed umpire to allow the game to continue as per DR 2.6 when there is an incomplete team in a side.
- (i) ALL electronic communication devices located within six (6) metres of the green whilst a match is in progress shall be switched off. Special dispensation may be given to 'on call' emergency personnel by the controlling body after consultation.
- (j) ***ALL Clubs are required to maintain an up-to-date Player register, which the District may require for reconciliation purposes, at any stage during the Season. Failure to maintain such a Register may result in forfeiture for ANY Finals.***

**29. EXTREME WEATHER POLICY**

All District events are conducted under the Bowls Queensland Extreme Weather Policy. All players and officials should make themselves aware of the requirements of this policy.

**30. ENQUIRIES**

For all enquiries, please contact BGCT office on **0490 913 738**.