



PREMIER LEAGUE QUEENSLAND - CONDITIONS OF PLAY 2025

Amended 03 12 2024

**PREMIER LEAGUE QUEENSLAND IS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATION PO Box 900, 1. The Premier League Controlling Body will:*

- a) Determine the draw.
 - b) Determine playing days.
 - c) Determine venues.
 - d) Determine such changes that are necessary to allow the event to be successfully completed.
 - e) Form a disputes committee of 3 impartial board members who will inquire into and settle any disputes that may arise. Any member of the Disputes Committee, who may have a conflict of interest or be a party to such a dispute, will be excluded from the inquiry.
 - f) Consider cost-effectiveness to be of paramount importance.
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2. Composition of the Premier League

- a) The Premier League will comprise up to and including 12 clubs with their best 12 players per side (3 open rinks).
 - b) Each of the 12 Premier League Clubs will enter a Reserve Grade Premier League side comprising of 16 players per side (4 open rinks).
 - c) Each club will determine its own number of reserves.
 - d) A promotion-relegation system will require the team that finishes last on the points ladder at the end of the regular season to participate in the relegation process should we get nomination/s above and beyond the 12 competing clubs from the 2025 season. If a club does not re-enter for the following season (2026), then the team that finished last will NOT be required to play off in the relegation game.
 - e) Nominations for inclusion into the following season (2026) will have to be lodged no later than 30th June 2025. This includes all existing clubs and any new clubs wishing to enter.
 - f) Each participating club will contribute \$5,500.00 per annum to cover administration and event costs.
 - g) Each club in the Premier League competition will be responsible for all their own players' travel and accommodation costs.
 - h) There will be no green fees paid or demanded between Premier League clubs.
 - i) Each club will be required to provide food for all players scheduled to play at their club. This includes a minimum of one meal on double-header rounds at no cost to players.
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3. Conditions of Play



The Laws of the Sport of Bowls (including domestic regulations for Australia) shall apply with the following exceptions:

- a) Play for all matches on each rink will be 21 ends.
- b) The minimum number of ends required to constitute a game will be 48 for the Open side and 64 for the Reserve Grade side.
- c) **Start of Play** - The managers will toss a coin. The winner of the toss will determine if they play first, or the opposition plays first.
- d) Each team will get two trial ends before the start of play. There is to be no roll-ups on the playing surfaces one hour before the scheduled start time.
- e) There are NO DEAD ENDS - the jack is to be re-spotted on the dot provided by the home club, 1 metre behind the 2-metre mark.

f) You may nominate a dead end anytime from end 1 to end 21 of the game and at any time during play of that end, all players on that team that nominated the KILL have the chance to KILL the end. If that team is SUCCESSFUL in killing the end, Then the end will be replayed and not re-spotted and that team will be rewarded with another chance to KILL an end in the future and so on. As soon as the team has UNSUCCESSFULLY killed an end then they will forfeit the right to call another Dead End.

g) If the jack rebounds to less than 18 metres from the mat line, the jack shall be replaced as in condition 3(e). **or 3 (f) respectively if the nomination of a dead end was called**

h) **Scoring** - The master board awards 2 points for a win, 1 point for a draw, and 0 points for a loss.

i) Total shots scored will determine the winner of the game.

j) The position on the ladder is determined by points (as per 3(h)), with the Premier League Ladder scoring system as follows: Match points, rink wins, shot margin. Tied clubs will be separated based on their match outcomes or, in cases of season-long ties, a play-off.

k) Player positions within a rink may be changed once during the 21-end match, with notification to the opposition before the next end begins.

l) Competition commencement is set by the Controlling Body.

m) Host Clubs must arrange umpires for all Premier League games.

n) A random draw is completed annually.

o) Clubs are encouraged to provide music during games where possible.

p) Clubs must list their skips and corresponding numbers on Bowls Link one week before the competition begins.

q) Clubs may not move games on the draw without written approval from the Controlling Body.

r) Forfeits during the season will result in penalties, including loss of points and prize money.

s) Final-round forfeits result in removal from the competition for five years.

4. Player Eligibility

a) All sides should consist of players who are current members of any club in Queensland (including the Northern Rivers Bowls Region). All other players outside of Queensland membership shall be considered Marquees.

b) All players must be clear/free from any form of suspension and/or default status from any Bowls Club or Bowls Association.



c) Clubs can use an unlimited number of marquee players throughout the season; however, only two marquee players are eligible to play per round. A marquee player is considered a player that travels from interstate and is not a member of any club in Queensland or Northern Rivers Bowls Region.

d) Clubs breaching these PLAYER ELIGIBILITY conditions will face penalties, including:

- Deduction of all match and rink points for games where ineligible players participated.
- Worst loss margin applied for the affected games.
- Opposing teams awarded match and rink points, plus the average winning margin for that round.
- Further actions may be determined by the Controlling Body.

5. Inclement Weather

a) The Home Club's PLQ Liaison person or designated official will declare the fitness of the green for play no later than two hours prior to commencement, but not earlier than four hours before. Efforts must be made to notify visiting teams if conditions change.

b) A minimum of 48 ends for Premier Grade and 64 ends for Reserve Grade constitutes a game. If the required ends are not completed within 4½ hours, the game must be replayed at a mutually agreeable time approved by the Controlling Body.

6. Qualifying Players for Finals Eligibility

a) Players must play a minimum of five games in their respective grade to qualify for either Premier League or Reserve Grade Finals.

b) Players with seven games in Premier League grade cannot return to Reserve Grade for the Finals Series.

c) A maximum of two players may be nominated as reserves in Reserve Grade, and they must be present in club playing attire.

d) A maximum of two marquee players can be used in finals if they meet eligibility requirements.

e) Extenuating circumstances for player eligibility will be at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

7. Protests/Disputes

a) A committee comprising the Chairman of PLQ, Tournament Director, and a Board member will handle disputes. If there is a conflict of interest, an alternative board or PLQ member will be selected.



b) All protests must be lodged within 24 hours of the disputed event in writing to the Secretary, accompanied by a \$100 fee (refundable if successful).

8. Start Times

a) Reserve Grade matches may start no more than 30 minutes earlier than Premier Grade matches. Start times must be agreed upon by both clubs.

b) Saturday game start times are decided by the host club but must consider travel times for visiting clubs. Disputes can be escalated to the Tournament Director, who can adjust start times in the competition's interest.

9. Finals Series

a) The top five clubs compete in the Finals Series over one weekend for both divisions.

b) The Tournament Director will allocate rinks for all finals.

c) Team managers perform the rink draw before each finals match.

d) Finals format:

- **Saturday Afternoon:** Elimination Final (4th vs. 5th) and Qualifying Final (2nd vs. 3rd).
 - **Saturday Night:** Major Semi-Final (1st vs. Qualifying Final winner) and Minor Semi-Final (Elimination Final winner vs. Qualifying Final loser).
 - **Sunday Morning:** Preliminary Final (Major Semi-Final loser vs. Minor Semi-Final winner).
 - **Sunday Afternoon:** Grand Final (Major Semi-Final winner vs. Preliminary Final winner).
- e) A perpetual trophy is awarded to the winning club for display for one year.
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10. General Conditions

a) Host Clubs must have greens ready for play with proper markings. No practice is allowed one hour before roll-up.

b) Side Managers must ensure their teams are ready by the allotted start time.

c) Home clubs are responsible for entering results into Bowls Link within one hour of game completion.

d) Clubs must nominate a Premier League Liaison person for communications with the Tournament Director or PLQ Board members.



11. Prize Money

Premier League:

- Winner: \$25,000
- Runner-up: \$12,500
- 3rd: \$6,000
- 4th: \$4,500
- 5th: \$3,000
- Total: \$51,000

Reserve Grade:

- Winner: \$8,000
- Runner-up: \$5,000
- 3rd: \$2,500
- 4th: \$2,000
- 5th: \$1,000
- Total: \$18,500

Additional Payments:

- Premier Grade rink wins: \$40 per rink for non-prize-winning clubs.
- Reserve Grade rink wins: \$20 per rink for non-prize-winning clubs.
- Skip Bonuses: \$1,000 for Premier Grade, \$500 for Reserve Grade.

The Premier League Board reserves the right to alter conditions of play due to unforeseen circumstances.