**HILLS BOWLING ASSOCIATION**

**PENNANT and MATCH RULES.**

**(As amended 16th November 2020)**

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***HILLS BOWLING ASSOCIATION.***

**Pennant and Match Rules**

All games played under the control of the HBA shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls and Domestic Regulations as published by Bowls Australia, all applicable Bowls SA Policies, and the Pennant and Match Rules of the Hills Bowling Association as contained herein.

**1. COMPETITIONS**

1. The format for all pennant matches, finals, Champion of Champion matches, and all other Association events, including:

(i) Starting date and length of season,

(ii) The number of sides to contest finals in each division, (provided that if a competition has six or more teams participating then a final four is to be played).

(iii) The order of play for finals,

(iv) Scheduling of dates for pennants and finals matches.

(v) Number of divisions.

(vi) Where necessary, the Executive may recommend adjustments to final side entries with the intention of making a viable and equitable competition across all Divisions in each competition, subject to a majority approval at a delegates meeting.

shall be determined by the Executive Committee prior to the commencement of each season.

2. With the exception of all finals matches and the Harrison Shield and Patron’s Shield, all association events shall be assigned to each club consecutively, in alphabetical order, provided that, the venue is acceptable for approval by the HBA assessment subcommittee.

The subcommittee is to be chaired by a member of the HBA Executive committee.

1. A club may choose to reject the privilege or swap with another club for a more suitable date – subject to approval by the HBA Executive Committee. If a swap cannot be agreed, then the Club will forfeit its right to host the event, and the event will be assigned to the next club in line due to host an Association event, and
2. (i) Each finals event shall be allocated to a neutral green – provided that the HBA Executive Committee is satisfied that the green is of suitable standard for finals play – and that the host club has adequate facilities to host the event.

(ii) The Executive may allow a final between two sides from the one club to be played at their home venue, providing both sides are supportive.

3. All Saturday Division I and Division II matches shall comprise 25 ends, all Saturday Division III matches (and lower) and all mid week open gender pennant matches shall comprise 21 ends, and all single gender women’s pennant matches shall comprise 20 ends – unless otherwise determined by a general meeting of the HBA club delegates.

4. All Clubs affiliated with the HBA shall be encouraged to hold single gender men’s and women’s Club Championships in Singles, Pairs, and any other format as stipulated by the HBA Executive Committee – with all winners to be decided prior to the date scheduled for the Association Champion of Champions play offs for that event.

5.  Players in each team event must be from the same Club. Should a substitute be required in a team, that substitute shall be a member of the same club who has not previously played in that event. No substitute is permitted for Singles.

**2. Matches Affected by Heat, Inclement Weather, or any other cause.**

1. A Unless otherwise provided for in these rules, the HBA shall abide by any Bowls SA Heat & Inclement Weather Policy in force.

1. B For the purpose of determining the current temperature at a match venue, the temperature at the nearest appropriate BOM automatic weather station shall be used.

The nearest appropriate station for:-

Meadows, Mt Barker, Hahndorf, Oakbank and Uraidla is Kuitpo.

The nearest appropriate station for:-

Gumeracha, Mt Pleasant, Lobethal, Lenswood and Woodside is Mt Crawford.

2. A If on the evening prior to the day of play the temperature on the Bureau of Meteorology website is forecast to reach 38O C ~~(in the case of open gender events) or 36~~~~O~~ ~~C (in the case of single gender ladies events)~~ for Mt Barker, then:

(a) All pennant matches, and

(b) Any other event scheduled for that day shall be postponed, and rescheduled to another date, at the discretion of the HBA Executive Committee.

2. B On a day where the temperature has the potential to reach 38o C (Open Gender competition) and 36 ° C (Single Gender competition) the Umpire of the day is responsible for delegating the duty of monitoring the temperature of the day. Although not compulsory, it is recommended the person tasked with this duty is “non-playing” for the day.

2. C If at any stage, the temperature at the BOM weather station nominated for each venue reach or exceed 38OC (in the case of open gender events) or 36OC (in the case of single gender ladies events) at the scheduled start of play or at any time after play has commenced.

It is a minimum requirement that a check of the temperature is done at least once per every 30 minutes of play, however it may be checked more than once if necessary.

The responsible person is to advise the umpire of the Day, who after confirming the temperature, will call all players off the green/s at the completion of the end in play.

After 30 minutes, from the time of the initial suspension of play, has passed, the responsible person and the Umpire of the Day will once again check the temperature of the day.

If the temperature has dropped below the cut-off temperature, play may recommence.

If the temperature remains at or above the cut-off temperature, a further 30 minute break will be had, if play is not possible then, the match shall be:

(a) awarded to the side which was leading at the time of cessation, or

(b) declared a draw if the number of ends completed is insufficient for a result.

For all other matches being conducted by the HBA on such a day, the Executive will select a course of action.

3. Not withstanding any of these rules,

a. if the day scheduled for play is at any time deemed to be Catastrophic Fire Danger day across the Mount Lofty Ranges Fire District, play shall be abandoned.

b. The HBA Executive Committee have an overriding discretion to determine that matches be abandoned.

Prior to 10.00am on the day of play in the case of an afternoon match, and prior to 7.00pm on the day preceding play in the case of a morning match.

4. If for any reason a Club determines that its green is unplayable:

The Club shall contact the opposition club no later than 10.00am on the day of play in the case of an afternoon match, and no later than 7.00pm on the day preceding play in the case of a morning match to ascertain the availability of the opposition club’s green, and

The Club shall then notify the HBA Secretary (or nominee),

5. If the opposition club is able to accommodate the match – then the match shall be transferred to that venue – if the opposition club is unable to accommodate the match, then the HBA Secretary (or nominee) shall determine (if possible) an alternative venue.

6. If the HBA Secretary (or nominee) is contacted by at least 5 clubs no later than 10.00am on the day of play in the case of an afternoon match, and no later than 7.00pm on the day preceding play in the case of a morning match stating that their greens are unplayable – then play for that day shall be abandoned, and all clubs shall be notified immediately.

Subsequent to 10.00am on the day of play in the case of an afternoon match, and subsequent to 7.00pm on the day preceding play in the case of a morning match – but prior to the commencement of play.

7. If play for the day has not been cancelled in accordance with Rule 2.6 – and if playing conditions deteriorate prior to the time fixed for the commencement of play – the Umpire shall determine whether play can commence.

8. If play has not commenced – and the green remains unplayable one hour after the scheduled commencement time – the match shall be abandoned.

Once play has commenced

9. If the weather conditions deteriorate once play has commenced, the Umpire of the Day may stop play. This may be upon appeal by a Side Manager or the Home club’s Greens Manager (or in their absence, their proxy). The Umpire of the Day may also act on their own discretion without appeal from either a Side Manager or Green’s Manager if it is felt that the conditions warrant a cessation of play. If play has been stopped it shall not be resumed without permission of the Umpire of the Day. If it is not possible to resume after one hour from the time of the last stoppage the match shall be abandoned.

10. A minimum of 60% of the total ends to be played in a match must be completed for the result to stand.

11. If the weather is threatening, teams shall complete 60% of the total ends to be played in a match prior to taking the afternoon tea break. The Umpire of the day is to make the final decision. [Note: 75 ends x 60% = 45 ends, 63 ends x 60% = 38 ends, 60 ends x 60% = 36 ends, and 42 ends x 60% = 26 ends, 40 ends x 60% = 24 ends].

12. Subject to this rule, play may not be abandoned for the day after the commencement of the game until all reasonable chance of obtaining a result has gone.

13. In the event of the death of a player either on the Green or within the Club premises within one hour prior to the scheduled commencement time and prior to the conclusion of play – any unfinished match shall be abandoned.

14. If:

* a match or matches are abandoned in accordance with these rules, or
* play in a match or matches is abandoned prior to a result being obtained, or
* less than 50% of the matches scheduled for a round in that Division have been completed

– then each team shall receive equal points. No points shall be awarded to a side which has forfeited prior to the scheduled match.

**3. TIME OF COMMENCEMENT OF PLAY.**

1. Play for pennant matches shall commence at 1.30pm for open gender competitions and 10.00am prior to the New Year and at 9.30am after the New Year for single gender women’s competitions (unless otherwise directed by the HBA Executive Committee).

2. If a team is unable to commence play within 30 minutes of the scheduled start time, then that team shall forfeit – unless a reason acceptable to the umpire has been supplied.

3. On pennant days, no player shall practice on a rink on which they are scheduled to play (or might be scheduled to play) – and in any event, no player shall practice on the green within 30 minutes of the scheduled commencement time.

**4. SCORING SYSTEM.**

1. In Pennant matches the winning side shall be determined by the highest total score of shots.

2. A winning side shall be credited with 8 points. In the event of a tie, each side shall receive 4 points. Each winning team shall be credited with two (2) points, and in the event of a tie, the teams shall each receive one (1) point.

3.        The premiership ladder shall be determined based on points, and if points are equal, then on ***shots difference, and if shots difference are equal, then on percentage.***

**5. NOTIFYING THE RESULTS OF THE MATCHES.**

1. Results and particulars of all pennant matches (including matches abandoned or cancelled in accordance with these rules) shall be submitted in a timely manner in accordance with the procedure adopted by the Hills Bowling Association.
2. Completed scoresheets shall be provided to the HBA Secretary (or nominee) within 7 days.
3. A team’s failure to comply with Rule 5.1 without an acceptable explanation may result in a fine of $20.00, a second breach may incur a fine of $40.00, and a subsequent breach may incur a fine of $40.00 and a loss of pennant points.

**6. UMPIRES.**

An official umpire shall be appointed by the Home Club for each Pennant match and their name gazetted on a notice board.

**7. MANAGERS.**

1. Team managers must be in attendance at the designated club of play no less than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time, so that the draw can be made in time for a “roll up” commencing 20 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time.

2 When only One team Manager is present Twenty-Five (25) minutes prior to the scheduled starting time, that Manager may allot the rinks so that their side can complete their trial ends within the time permitted.

3 Managers are to toss a coin for the opening of play in accordance with Law 18.2.

4 Managers are to show the actual scores on the result sheet. Both side managers are to sign the result sheet and the home side managers are to provide the results to the pennant recorder.

**8. AFTERNOON TEA BREAK.**

1 Clubs are requested to confine the afternoon tea breaks to a minimum. The welcoming official is requested to officiate as soon as all players are assembled, so that matches may proceed with a minimum of interruption.

2         All pennant players shall pay the host Club, the fee set at the AGM for afternoon tea.

**9. TRANSFER OF PLAYERS.**

1.1 Clubs shall not transfer players during the last four matches of a minor round Pennant season with the intent of affecting the premiership table.

1.2      When a side in a higher Division or a higher side within a Division has a bye, Two (2) players having played in that higher Division as a Leader or Second the previous week, are permitted to play in that Clubs next lowest side other than skipper on that day, provided there are no other players available to fill the sides from within the club.

2 A player promoted to fill a vacancy may be relegated to the original Division on the return of the replaced player.

3 Transfer of players from one side to another side within a Division shall be treated similarly.

4 Clubs shall have the right to appeal against another club should any movement of players contravene this undertaking by contacting the H.B.A. Secretary.

**10. REGISTERED PLAYERS.**

1. All players must be registered with the H.B.A. and Bowls SA prior to playing any pennant match for their club.

2 Players changing clubs are to have their registration transferred by their new club.

3 Any side playing unregistered players shall lose the points for the match in which they played and the points shall be awarded to their opponents.

**11. COMPOSITION OF SIDES.**

1        Any incomplete team in a side having one member missing from their team (and if no substitutes are available), shall play in accordance with the applicable law of bowls relating to an incomplete side. This shall also apply if two teams playing each other both have a player missing.

*(Each of the three players shall bowl 2 bowls each, with the position of “second” not used, that is the position of Leader, Third and Skipper shall all be in play).*

2 The lowest side of any Club, is the side which plays in the lowest Division of the H.B.A. for which the club has entered a side.

3 In the event that a club has entered more than one (1) side in that (lowest nominated) Division the club will give separate names for each side and prior to the first game shall either:

* 1. Designate which of the sides is to be treated as the lowest side, or:
  2. Elect to have both sides treated as the Club’s lowest side – so that each side may be afforded the privileges provided for in these rules. However, after the fourth round each side will be treated as a separate entity and no exchange of players will be permitted thereafter.

4 In a Clubs lowest side a Club may use one (1) Substitute from their own club or an affiliated substitute in each team. (See 12.5. A)

**12. SUBSTITUTES.**

1 The Laws of Bowls and Domestic Regulations shall apply to all replacement and substitute players.

2        The full name of all substitutes and their Club must be recorded on the scorecard

and on the result sheet.

3         If a pennant player is unable to play pennants for their home club, that player shall not be eligible to play pennants as a substitute for any other club without the registered club’s consent. This restriction is to remain in force during the period of time the player is unavailable to the registered club.

4        Should a club play a required player from another club, such club shall forfeit all match points in which the player plays and Rule 15 shall apply. In addition any required player of a club who makes themselves unavailable and plays for another club without prior approval shall incur a three (3) week suspension from playing tournaments or Pennants in any Division of the Hills Bowling Association. Such suspension shall include the Mid-Week competition.

**13. OPPOSITE GENDER PLAYERS**

1. In a club’s lowest side in a single gender competition, where there are insufficient fully registered bowlers of that gender to field a side, that club may play any opposite gender member of that club, provided that:

(a) The player does not play higher than lead or second,

(b) The side comprises of greater than 51% eligible same gender players.

(c) The remainder may be either substitutes (a maximum of one per team), or Opposite Gender Players (a maximum of three per side).

(d) When players are selected to play as Opposite Gender Players, they play under the HBA Opposite Gender Player rules.

2. In a single gender competition – available eligible players of that gender shall be selected ahead of opposite gender players in finals.

3. Should any Club abuse these conditions for Opposite Gender Players, then the opposing side may lodge a protest with the HBA. The protest shall be heard against these rules and if proven, will result in the offending Club losing points for that game.

**14. FORFEITS.**

1 Clubs unable to fill all nominated sides despite provisions made for substitutes and

decreased numbers in the lowest side in a Club must forfeit.

2. Clubs must fill their nominated sides in full, in descending order, of the highest side nominated to the lowest side, with provisions allowed for in the lowest side.

3. Clubs claiming forfeited match points must complete a Pennant result sheet, naming the side selected to play whether they are the home side or not, this **must** be done.

4. ***Sides receiving a forfeit shall be credited with full match points plus 10 shots for each team– and the forfeiting side shall be awarded no points or shots.***

5. A side must have a minimum of three players available in each rink to constitute a side – otherwise they must forfeit. Nothing precludes the sides involved from then agreeing to an interchange of players to facilitate the match being played as a social match only.

6.         Where a side (not being the lowest side in the club) plays the lowest side in a club, the rules relating to the lowest side in a club must apply to enable a game to be played in lieu of a forfeit.

7. If a Club forfeits a side on two consecutive occasions, or on a total of four occasions during the season –in the absence of an explanation acceptable to the HBA Executive Committee – the side may be withdrawn from the competition, and the side replaced with a bye, or the section re drawn. A fine (not exceeding $100.00) may also be applied.

8. If a Club fails to advise an opposition Club of an intended forfeit prior to 8.30pm two nights prior to the scheduled match – in the absence of an explanation acceptable to the HBA Executive Committee –a fine (not exceeding $100.00) may be applied.

**15. FINALS**

1          If a result in finals match is not obtained, and the H.B.A. is unable to reprogram the match, the higher placed side of those competing on the day will be credited with the win.

Note:-

If a side has defeated another in the current finals series and they meet again, then the side that won the earlier match, shall be considered to be the higher side.

Eg second against first.

2. In the event of a tie in a major round match, with total shots equal, the applicable

Law of Bowls will be applied.

An extra end/s shall be played by each team in a side to decide a winner.

3. The Association will provide Umpires for all Finals.

4 A To be eligible to play for a Club in a finals match in an open gender competition:

(i) The player must have played in no less than six minor round matches for the Club in that competition,

(ii) The player must have played in no less than six minor round matches for that Division or lower – provided that in the Club’s lowest Division the player must have played in no less than three minor round matches for that Division.

4 B The eligibility requirements for players in a single gender competitions shall be determined by the HBA Executive Committee prior to the commencement of the season.

5. During finals, if a club has sides playing in more than one (1) Division, a player can

be relegated or promoted to a clubs Division or Side immediately above or below

the players qualified Division or Side, not withstanding providing the Clubs Division

or Side immediately above is also playing on the same day.

6. Games played by players relegated to a lower Division or Side during finals, count

towards the six (6) games qualifications in that Division or Side. As soon as the

Division or Side immediately above is eliminated from the finals, the original

six (6) game rule shall apply.

7. Any appeal arising from the perceived misuse of Rule 14.5 shall be referred to the HBA Executive for determination in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

8. The H.B.A. Executive has the right to give a permit to play in extenuating circumstances.

**16. BYES.**

Where possible byes will be avoided, every effort will be made to get an even number of sides. Where a “bye” occurs in the programme, no match points will be allocated to the side having the bye. The side having a “bye” on a day where play is abandoned will not be allocated any match points. All other sides programmed to play on that day will receive match points as per Rules 2.6.1 and 2.6.2.

**17. CODE OF CONDUCT**

1. Players or any other person or official directly involved in a pennant match run by the HBA

* shall not consume or carry alcohol on the green while a match is in progress, and
* shall comply with the home club rules and policies regarding smoking.

2. The HBA Executive may impose penalties upon any player, team or side for any action or behaviour in breach of these Pennant and Match Rules or the Laws of the Sport of Bowls or where actions are considered to bring the game into disrepute.