HILLS BOWLING ASSOCIATION

Pennant and Match Rules

**(As amended 6.1.25)**

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HILLS BOWLING ASSOCIATION

Pennant and Match Rules

All games played under the control of the Hills Bowling Association (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.

Refer: <https://www.bowlssa.com.au/about-us-bowls-sa/governance-policies/>

# COMPETITIONS

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

1. Starting date and length of season,
2. 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).
3. The order of play for finals,
4. Scheduling of dates for pennants and finals matches.
5. Number of divisions.
6. 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 in consultation with clubs prior to the commencement of each season.

## With the exception of all finals matches, the Harrison Shield ,the Patron’s Shield, and Champion of Champions regional play offs - all association events shall be assigned to each club consecutively, in alphabetical order, provided that the venue is deemed appropriate and at an acceptable standard by the HBA Executive Committee.

### The Harrison Shield and Patron’s Shield shall be assigned to the club whose team or side won the event the previous season – and Champion of Champions regional play offs shall be assigned to the club of the winning HBA competitors.

### Assignment of finals events:-

#### 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.

#### 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.

## Unless otherwise determined by a general meeting of the HBA club delegates:

### All pennant matches shall comprise 21 ends.

### All pennant matches shall comprise of fours format.

## 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.

## Players in each team Championship 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.

# Matches Affected by Heat, Inclement Weather, or any other cause

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

Refer <https://www.bowlssa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2022/09/052-Policy-Heat-and-Inclement-Weather-Clubs-Associations-v2-Approved-2022.08.29.pdf>

## Determination of temperature conditions:

### For the purpose of determining the current temperature at a match venue, the temperature at the nearest appropriate Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) automatic weather station shall be used.

The nearest appropriate station for:-

* Hahndorf, Lenswood, Lobethal, Mt Barker, Oakbank, Woodside and Uraidla is Mount Lofty.
* Meadows is Kuitpo.
* Gumeracha is Mt Crawford.

### If on the evening two days prior to the **Saturday** the temperature on the Bureau of Meteorology website is forecast to reach 38O C or above for Mt Barker, then:

#### All pennant matches scheduled for **Saturday** shall commence at 10.00am, and

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

### If on the evening two days prior to the **Wednesday** the temperature on the Bureau of Meteorology website is forecast to reach 38O C or above for Mt Barker, then:

#### All pennant matches scheduled for **Wednesday** shall commence at 10.00am, and

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

### On a day where the temperature has the potential to reach **36° C** 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.

### 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 often if necessary.

### If at any stage, the temperature at the BOM weather station nominated for each venue reaches or exceeds **36°C** at the scheduled start of play or at any time after play has commenced, play will be suspended.

### 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:

#### Awarded to the side which was leading at the time of cessation, or

#### declared a draw if the number of ends completed is insufficient for a result (refer 2.10 below).

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

## Extenuating circumstances

Notwithstanding any of these rules,

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

### The HBA Executive Committee has 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, the following apply:-**

## 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, within the nominated timeframes above, also notify the HBA Secretary (or nominee)

## 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.

## If the HBA Secretary (or nominee) is contacted by the majority of clubs 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, the following apply:-**

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

## If play has not commenced – and :

(a) the managers of all sides playing at the venue (and present at the venue) agree that the green is unplayable, and unlikely to be playable prior to 2.30pm, and the umpire agrees – then the umpire may abandon all matches at that venue.

(b) otherwise, play shall not be abandoned unless at the absolute discretion of the umpire, the green remains unplayable one hour after the scheduled commencement time.

(c ) the umpire or his representative shall notify the HBA Secretary as soon as possible after play has been abandoned at that venue.

**Once play has commenced, the following apply:-**

## If the weather conditions deteriorate once play has commenced, the Umpire of the Day may stop play. This may be upon request 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 if rule 2.10 below has not been satisfied.

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

## If the weather is threatening, teams shall make every attempt to complete a combined 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 as to whether play can proceed.

[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].

## 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.

## 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 –all matches at that venue shall be abandoned.

**In all circumstances above:-**

## 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 match commencing.

# TIME OF COMMENCEMENT OF PLAY

## Play for pennant matches shall commence at 1.30pm for open gender competitions (subject to Rule 2.2.b and 2.2.c) and 9.30am for single gender women’s competitions (unless otherwise directed by the HBA Executive Committee).

## 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.

## Players may practice on any rink up until 30 minutes prior to the start of play – provided however that once their rink of play has been drawn; they cannot practice on that rink.

# SCORING SYSTEM

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

## 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.

## 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. The premiership ladder will be reflected on the BowlsLink website – refer <https://results.bowlslink.com.au/club-group/0f607fa3-c34f-439f-b1a3-5542f75a0fa4#competitions>

# NOTIFYING THE RESULTS OF THE MATCHES

## Clubs shall ensure that teams and results from all pennant matches are recorded online – and that the HBA Secretary is notified of any forfeit or abandoned match – no later than 10.00pm on the day of the match.

## The home club in each match shall retain the scoresheets – until such time as advised by the HBA Executive Committee that they may dispose of them.

# UMPIRES

Where possible a currently accredited umpire shall be appointed by the Home Club for each pennant match and their name gazetted on a notice board. If a currently accredited umpire is not in attendance at the match the Sides Managers shall agree on a substitute to perform the duties of Umpire for the match. The accredited umpire, or substitute, need not be a member of the home club. A substitute umpire should preferably be an accredited measurer.

# TEAM MANAGERS

## Side 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.

## When only One Side 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.

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

## Side Managers are to record the actual scores on the result sheet. Both side managers are to sign the result sheet and ensure that Rule 5.1 above is satisfied.

# AFTERNOON TEA BREAK

## Every team competing in a pennant competition must take a break, not exceeding 15 minutes.

## Such break shall occur no sooner than 10 ends, and no later than 15 ends (to take into account rule 2.11 [playing through if weather threatening]. The timing of the break shall be agreed between the team managers, and in default of agreement, as determined by the Umpire of the day.

# TRANSFER OF PLAYERS

## Players, who have not previously played a minimum of three (3) matches in a lower Side during the pennant season, shall not be transferred to a lower Side in the last **three** matches of the minor round.

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

## When a side has a bye, two (2) players having played in that side as a Leader or Second during that sides last match, are permitted to play in that Clubs next lowest side, provided that:

### They do not play as skipper, and

### There are no other players available from within the club to field a side, notwithstanding rule 11.3 below (playing one player short in each rink) and Section 12 below ("SUBSTITUTES" ).

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

## Clubs shall have the right to appeal against another club should any movement of players contravene this undertaking by contacting the HBA Secretary.

# REGISTERED PLAYERS

## All players must be registered with Bowls SA prior to playing any pennant match for their club.

## All clubs must pay the prescribed fees to the HBA at least seven (7) days prior to the commencement of the pennant season, being:

### A fee for each side entered in an HBA pennant competition, and

### A fee for each player based on the number of players fully registered with the club during the preceding season, plus an additional 10 members.

### Thereafter, no additional process is required to register bowlers with HBA.

### At the conclusion of each season, clubs shall submit an updated list to the HBA detailing all players registered with full playing rights, so that the HBA can reconcile the earlier payment.

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

## 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.

# COMPOSITION OF SIDES

## Clubs must fill their nominated sides in full, in descending order of the highest side nominated to the lowest side, with provisions (substitutes &/or incomplete teams) allowed for in the lowest side.

## The lowest side of any Club is the side which plays in the lowest Division of the HBA for which the club has entered a side.

## Any incomplete 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).

## 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:

### Designate which of the sides is to be treated as the lowest side, or:

### 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 subsequent exchanges will be subject to the Transfer Rules reflected herein.

# SUBSTITUTES

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

## The full name of all substitutes and their Club must be recorded on the scorecard and on the result sheet.

## 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.

## Should a club play a required player from another club without consent, such club shall forfeit all points for the match in which the player plays. 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 Competition of the Hills Bowling Association. Such suspension shall include the Mid-Week competition.

## In a Clubs lowest side a Club may use no more than one (1) Substitute from their own club or an affiliated substitute in each team.

# OPPOSITE GENDER PLAYERS

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

## In a club’s lowest side in a single gender ladies 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:

### The player does not play higher than lead or second,

### The side comprises of greater than 51% eligible same gender players.

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

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

## 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.

# FORFEITS

## Clubs unable to fill all nominated sides despite provisions made for substitutes and decreased numbers in the lowest side in a Club must forfeit.

## 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, and submit this online per Section 5 above (“NOTIFYING THE RESULTS OF THE MATCHES”).

## 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.

## A side must have a minimum of three players available in each rink team 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.

## 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.

## 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.

# FINALS

## If a result in finals match is not obtained, and the HBA 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. E.g. second against first.

## In the event of a tie in a finals 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.

## The host club will provide Umpires for all finals – unless otherwise agreed with the HBA Executive Committee.

## Player eligibility for finals:-

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

#### The player must have played in no less than **four (4)** minor round matches for the Club in that competition (i.e. Saturday, Wednesday or Thursday), and

#### The player must have played in no less than **four (4)** minor round matches for that Side or lower – provided that in the Club’s lowest Side the player must have played in no less than three (3) minor round matches for that Side.

### To be eligible to play for a club in finals in the Ladies’ Thursday competition:

#### The player must be female,

#### The player must have played no less than three (3) minor round matches for that side or their club’s lower side.

## During finals, if a club has sides playing in more than one (1) Division, a player can be relegated to a club’s Division or Side immediately below the players qualified Division or Side, providing the club’s Division or Side immediately above is also playing on the same day.

## Once a player has become eligible for a finals match in any given Division or Side, they remain eligible to continue paying in that Division or Side for subsequent finals matches.

## Any appeal arising from the perceived misuse of Rule 15.4 or 15.5 shall be referred to the HBA Executive for determination in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

## The HBA Executive has the right to give a permit for an individual to play in extenuating circumstances if warranted and requested by their respective club.

# 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 4.1 and 4.2 above.

# CODE OF CONDUCT

## 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.

## 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.

# RULES CHANGE HISTORY

The following summarises changes made to the HBA Pennant and Match Rules since 16/02/2022.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date Endorsed** | **Rule Ref** | **Summary of Change** |
| 6.1.25 | 15.4 | Four games to qualify for finals. |
| 6.1.25 | 9.1 | Transferring players. |
| 16.9.24 | 6 | Provision if no accredited umpire available. |
| 15.7.24 | 2.8 | Umpire may abandon play if all side managers agree. |
| 20.5.24 | 2.2.d & 2.2.e | Play suspended/abandoned at 36°C. |
| 20.5.24 | 3.1 | All ladies’ pennants commence at 9.30am. |
| 20.5.24 | 7 | Reference to team and team managers amended to side and side managers. |
| 20.11.23 | General | Overall tidy up of document section numbering, formatting and cross-references |
| 20,11,23 | General | Re-arrangement of rules into more appropriate sections; minor wording clarifications and removal of superfluous statements |
| 20.11.23 | 2.2 | Aligned club weather stations to latest updates from Bowls SA |
| 20.11.23 | 3.3 | Clarification re practicing not permitted on allocated rink |
|  | 11.1 | Rule moved from Forfeits Section |
| 20.11.23 | 15.X | Rule removed re games in finals counting towards eligibility but 15.5 added in lieu |
| 20.11.23 | 15.6 | Rule addition re finals eligibility |
| 20.11.23 | 18 | Addition of Rules Change History (Section 18) |
|  |  |  |
| 18.09.2023 | 2.2 b & c | 10:00 AM start time for days forecast >= 38C |
| 17.07.2023 | 1.3 | All pennant matches to be 21 ends |
| 15.05.2023 | 9.1 | Clarification to transfer of players clauses |
| 15.05.2023 | 10 | Clarification to player registrations |
| 15.05.2023 | 15.4 | Clarification to finals eligibility criteria |
| 6.10.2022 | 3.3 | Allowing practice any rink up to 30 minutes prior to start time |
| 6.10.2022 | 8 | Clarification of scheduled break circumstances |
| 6.10.2022 | 1.2 | Updates to venue selections for Shield and Champ of Champ events |
| 16.05.2022 | 1.3 | Introduction of trial format for Wednesday Div 1 |
| 16.02.2022 | 3.3 | Practice allowed any rink up until 30 minutes prior to start time |
|  |  |  |
| *Historical changes not maintained herein* |