

## New Zealand Domestic Regulations

### Status of Regulation

These Domestic Regulations (Regulation) are made in accordance with Law 57.1 of the World Bowls Laws of the Sport of Bowls Crystal Mark Fourth Edition. This Regulation applies to all domestic play in New Zealand which covers club, centre, regional and national competitions.

Bowls New Zealand (as a Member National Authority) are authorised to make Regulations on aspects of the sport. If there is no domestic regulation to cover a specific aspect of the sport, all games will be played in line with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

### Commencement

This Regulation is issued by Bowls New Zealand under Clause 25 of the Bowls New Zealand Constitution.

This Regulation will take effect from 1 April 2023.

#### 1. Definitions

- 1.1 The words and phrases used in this Regulation shall have the same meaning as defined in the Bowls New Zealand Constitution, unless otherwise specified in these Regulations.
- 1.2 References to a Law in this Regulation refers to a law in the World Bowls Laws of the Sport of Bowls Crystal Mark Fourth Edition.
- 1.3 "Club Tournament" means a competition, tournament, or event for the game of bowls held by or under the auspices of a Club in which entry is limited to members of that Club. This may include graded events where players play in a position that has been classified by their Club.
- 1.4 "Open Tournament" means a competition, tournament, or event for the game of bowls which is open for entry to any member of any Club or Centre.

#### 2. Substitute Players (Law 32.9)

- 2.1 For domestic play, a substitute is a player who is either temporarily or permanently replacing an absent team member during a game or tournament.
- 2.2 A Substitute may be permitted into a team at any stage during a game throughout the course of a tournament. Changes made to members of the original team before the start of the first game are permitted at the discretion of the Controlling Body and are not considered to be a substitute.
- 2.3 The Controlling Body will decide on the eligibility and approve the use of a substitute. If no eligible substitute is available, Law 32.6 applies.
- 2.4 The following requirements apply to introducing a substitute:
  - a) The substitute must play in any position other than skip. The other members of the team can rearrange their positions as necessary.
  - b) If the tournament is a graded event, a substitute graded Skip can play as Skip. The Controlling Body may give approval for a team member to play in a higher graded position, but under no circumstances shall a team member play in a lower graded position.
  - c) The Controlling Body will determine if the request for a substitute is valid. The following examples would normally be considered valid, including but not limited to illness, bereavement of a close family member, jury duty, Bowls New Zealand duty and work commitments. Other circumstances may also be accepted as valid. The Controlling Body may include additional reasons in the Conditions of Play.
  - d) A Substitute shall not be permitted if a team member enters another tournament scheduled to play at the same time.
  - e) A Fours Team may contain up to two substitutes at any one time during an event.
  - f) A Triples or Pairs Team may only contain one substitute at any one time during an event.
  - g) A substitute is not permitted in any Singles game, except in a Side, where a substitute may be permitted.
  - h) If the player for which the substitute was replacing later becomes available, the player shall with the consent of the Controlling Body, rejoin the team in the same position at the completion of any

end. The team can rearrange their positions as necessary. Wherever possible, the original player, should return to the team before another player is appointed as a substitute.

- i) A substitute team member must be approved when a player has qualified or been selected for a Centre or Bowls New Zealand tournament.
  - j) If a player qualifies for more than one event under the control of the same Controlling Body and is instructed to play in one event, a substitute will be permitted, unless it is a Singles event.
- 2.5 A substitute approved by the Controlling Body shall, where possible, be:
- a) Of playing ability equal to, or less than, the absent team member
  - b) A player who satisfies the eligibility requirements for team members in the Conditions of Play.
  - c) Where it is not possible to satisfy the above requirements, the Controlling Body may appoint any suitable player to act as substitute.
- 2.6 The awarding of a trophy, financial reward, or other acknowledgement of winning a tournament to a substitute in the winning team shall be the prerogative of the Controlling Body.
- 2.7 If the tournament leads on to a pathway event, the Controlling Body shall decide if the substitute will be nominated and entered to play in that tournament.
- 2.8 Each pathway event is a competition in its own right and therefore the full scope of this Regulation will apply to each pathway event.

### **3. Artificial devices for delivering the jack or a bowl (Law 41.8)**

*(Refer to Section 17 for additional regulations on Players with Disabilities)*

- 3.1 For domestic play, the use of a Bowling Arm is approved for delivering the jack or a bowl.
- 3.2 A player may use any number of Bowling Arms during trial ends to assess suitability.
- 3.3 Whenever a player commences using a Bowling Arm in a game, the player must use it for the remainder of that game. This does not apply to the delivery of the jack, which can be delivered either by hand or by a Bowling Arm.
- 3.4 A player cannot alter or change the Bowling Arm during a game except in circumstances where the device is rendered unplayable. In this instance, the player may change to another bowling arm on approval by the Umpire or Controlling Body.
- 3.5 Bowls New Zealand may consider approving other artificial devices for use on a case-by-case basis. A sample of the device should be submitted for practical assessment. Any additional approved artificial devices will be notified to all Centres once approval has been granted.

### **4. The type of synthetic surfaces (Law 46.4)**

- 4.1 Bowls New Zealand will approve the type of synthetic surfaces to be used for domestic play.

### **5. Standards for greens constructed in line with previous editions of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls (Law 46.5)**

- 5.1 Greens already in use at the time of implementation of this Regulation are approved for domestic play.

### **6. Standards for the minimum width of a rink (Law 49.1)**

- 6.1 For domestic play, the minimum width of a rink shall be 3.6 metres and the maximum width shall be 5.8 metres.

### **7. Standards for boundary pegs made in line with previous editions of the Laws of the Sport (Law 49.5)**

- 7.1 Boundary pegs already in use at the time of implementation of this Regulation are approved for domestic play.
- 7.2 The four corners of the rink must be marked by boundary pegs which shall be a minimum of 13mm and a maximum of 25mm wide.
- 7.3 The requirement for a thin black vertical line on boundary pegs shall not apply to pegs fixed on top of the bank.

### **8. The use of boundary threads (Law 49.9)**

- 8.1 Boundary threads will not be used for domestic play.

### **9. Re-testing and re-stamping bowls (Law 52.2.3)**

- 9.1 All re-testing and re-stamping of bowls must be carried out by a World Bowls licensed tester.
- 10. The deposit to be paid when a challenge to bowls is lodged (Law 52.4.4.3)**
- 10.1 A deposit of \$150 must be paid to the Umpire or Controlling Body by the person making a bowls challenge.
- 11. Requirements for the stamps on bowls (Law 53.5)**
- 11.1 All sets of bowls used for domestic play shall bear a 1982 date or subsequent on the bowls stamp.
- 12. The type of measuring equipment for carrying out umpires' duties (Law 54.9)**
- 12.1 Bowls New Zealand may approve measuring equipment for carrying out umpire's duties during domestic play in addition to the equipment listed in Law 54.
- 12.2 A sample of the measuring equipment and accompanying information can be submitted for practical assessment. Measuring equipment will only be approved if it is determined that it is effective and accurate for use during umpiring duties.
- 12.3 If measuring equipment is approved for carrying out umpire's duties, this will be notified to all Centres and Umpire Groups once approval has been granted.
- 13. Colours for footwear and the types of sole (Appendix A.2.2)**
- 13.1 Players, Umpires and Markers must wear flat-soled (heel-less) footwear when they play on the green or act as an Umpire or Marker. Soles may be of a non-slip material with a slightly abrasive surface.
- 13.2 Bowls New Zealand may grant dispensation to wear a particular type of footwear or no footwear based on medical grounds.
- 13.3 Footwear that damages the green will not be permitted. The person concerned will be asked by the Controlling Body to remove their shoes and replace them.
- 13.4 Bowls New Zealand will have the ability to approve footwear for use on greens. The player or manufacturer/supplier must submit a sample for approval. Once approved footwear will be notified to all Centres. The approval of footwear will be based on (but not limited to) the following aspects:
- a) Contour of the sole
  - b) One piece sole
  - c) Channel depth
  - d) No raised heel
  - e) No attached heel
  - f) Rounded edges
  - g) Indented non-slip sole
  - h) No excessively pronounced ripples/obstructions
- 14. Colours and types of clothing, including bowling gloves (Appendix A.3)**
- 14.1 For club tournaments, clothing requirements shall be determined by the Club.
- 14.2 For any open tournament, players in Singles and members of a Team or Side must wear clothing of the same colour and design as determined by the Controlling Body. The Controlling Body may impose conditions relating to sponsor's logos.
- 14.3 Bowls New Zealand may approve clothing variations upon application from any Club or Centre for any specific event, game, Team or Side.
- 14.4 Bowling gloves are permitted and may be worn at any time.
- 14.5 All registered Umpires will wear clothing in the official colours as determined by Bowls New Zealand. Umpires are entitled to wear badges, flashes, and other uniform items, as approved by Bowls New Zealand.

### **Supplementary Tournament Regulations**

- 15. Tournaments and Use of Greens**
- 15.1 A Centre or Club shall not hold a qualifying competition for a National Event at the same time as the following competitions are being played:
- a) New Zealand National Open Championships.
  - b) Regional Playoff or National Final of any New Zealand Interclub or Intercentre competition.
- 15.2 A club shall not hold a qualifying competition for a national pathway event at the same time as a Centre

competition, except if no players from that club are involved in that event.

- 15.3 Every Bowls New Zealand affiliated club shall allow Bowls New Zealand and/or its governing Centre the use of, and full access to, its bowling green(s) and amenities for the conducting of national and Centre tournaments and other fixtures held by or under the auspices of Bowls New Zealand or the relevant Centre on such days in the playing season as Bowls New Zealand or the Centre may require, following consultation with, and upon giving reasonable notice to, the Club concerned.

## 16. Use of Technology

- 16.1 The use of electronic devices (for example, mobile phones, tablets, and other devices) is permitted on the green under the following conditions:
- If they are used by a player to either record or monitor the outcomes of their game
  - They are not used for communication purposes, and
  - The use of the device does not interrupt or interfere with any other players or disrupts the flow of the game.
- 16.2 If the use of electronic devices does not meet these conditions, the Controlling Body or Umpire may ask the player to immediately stop using the device.
- 16.3 The Controlling Body for any tournament retains the right under A.1.4.5 to make specific arrangements for the use of electronic devices in their Conditions of Play.

## 17. Players with Disabilities Wheelchairs (Manual)

- 17.1 The large and usually rear tyres (pneumatic or soft rubber wheels) must have a minimum width of 75mm. Tyres must be smooth or inverted tread.
- 17.2 The tyres for the small or front wheels must be at least 200mm x 75mm with a pneumatic or soft rubber tyre. Castors made of nylon or polyurethane can also be used for front wheels. The width of these should be a minimum of 75mm. It is a requirement that the edges, if sharp, be rounded off.
- 17.3 If there are any doubts about the tyre tread, tape or other material can be placed over the tyre to provide a smoother surface as a temporary or precautionary measure.
- 17.4 To further ensure there is no undue damage to the green, players should ensure a wide circle is taken when turning their chair on the green.
- 17.5 It is considered that the use of a motorised wheelchair would damage greens, both natural and artificial. All play on greens should be from a manual wheelchair. Any wheelchair player is permitted to have an assistant to assist with any mobility issues.

### Scooters

- 17.6 Any large tyres (pneumatic or soft rubber) must have a minimum width of 75mm. Tyres must be smooth or inverted tread.
- 17.7 Any smaller wheels must be at least 200mm x 75mm with a pneumatic or soft rubber tyre.
- 17.8 If there are any doubts about the tyre tread, tape or other material can be placed over the tyre to provide a smoother surface as a temporary or precautionary measure.
- 17.9 To further ensure there is no undue damage to the green, players should ensure a wide circle is taken when turning their chair on the green.

### Walking Frames

- 17.10 Walking frames can be used provided the frame does not cause damage to the green. To eliminate damage that may be caused to the green, the frame must comply with the following requirements:
- Pneumatic wheels which are at least 75mm or wider wheels that are smooth and without tread.
  - If the frame has "feet", each one must have its own base covered with rubber or similar material. The base should measure at least 75mm across.
  - Players are not to sit on their frames while on the green unless each "foot" and wheel complies with these specifications.

### Crutches or Walking sticks

- 17.11 A player who has a physical disability will be allowed to use a crutch or walking stick. The support must have a base covered with rubber or similar material. This base must measure at least 75 mm across. The crutch or walking stick can be placed on or next to the mat.

### String Lines

- 17.12 String lines are an accepted practice for centre line rink markings for vision impaired bowlers. The string

line should be fixed to the end of the rink on the centre line.

17.13 The string line should be white and tightly affixed along the surface of the green.

**Person assisting a vision impaired player**

17.14 The sighted person assisting a vision impaired player will be referred to as the Director. The Director may give any assistance required to the player and assist with the strategy of play. The Director may stand in front of the mat while their player is in possession of the rink.