



CONDITIONS OF PLAY

For Outdoor Provincial Teams Championships

BOWLS BRITISH COLUMBIA

Revised June 2025

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TEAMS CONDITIONS OF PLAY

Section 1: INTRODUCTION AND DEFINITIONS

1.1 Introduction

All Bowls British Columbia events are to be conducted under the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, Crystal Mark Fourth Edition, 2022.

These Conditions of Play govern the operation of all of the following outdoor events:

1. Provincial Pairs Championships – Men and Women
2. Provincial Triples Championships – Men and Women
3. Provincial Fours Championships – Men and Women
4. Provincial Mixed Pairs Championship - Mixed
5. Provincial Senior Triples Championships (Seniors) – Men and Women

1.2 Definitions

'BBC' will mean Bowls British Columbia (Bowls BC),

'BCB' will mean Bowls Canada *Boulingrin*,

'Laws of the Sport' will mean The "Laws of the Sport of Bowls (Crystal Mark Fourth Edition)" as adopted by BCB in 2022,

'District' will mean a Provincial Bowls District affiliated with Bowls BC,

'Club' will mean a Provincial Bowls Club affiliated with a Provincial Bowls District and Bowls BC,

'HEU' will mean the Head Event Umpire,

'PGD' will mean the Bowls BC Provincial Games Director,

'Team' will mean all members of a bowling team.

Section 2: GENERAL CONDITIONS RELATING TO CHAMPIONSHIPS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF BBC.

2.1 Competitions

Bowls BC shall conduct, under the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, and under conditions determined by BBC, the following provincial outdoor championships.

Men's and Women's Outdoor Pairs, Triples and Fours;

Mixed Pairs;

Men's and Women's Senior Triples (age 65 and over);

2.2 Eligibility

Every person entering a Provincial Championship must:

Have their principal residence in British Columbia, as of January 1 of the year of the event.

Principal residence as defined by their tax returns or other supporting document, **[4/18]**

Be a member of Bowls BC in good standing and with a current membership card, and, for events having an age limit, provide proof of age.

The Umpire(s) will require all entrants to a Provincial Championship to:

- (a) Present a current BBC membership card for inspection,
- (b) Undergo a bowls and shoes inspection, and,
- (c) Provide proof of age if an age limit applies.

A person unable to verify eligibility will not be permitted to continue in the Provincial Championship.

In 2025, bowlers will be allowed to participate in all events for which they meet the eligibility requirements/restrictions.

Eligibility Restrictions:

As the Canadian Singles and Fours Championships will be conducted concurrently and the Canadian Pairs and Triples will be conducted concurrently, the following restrictions will apply. **[4/25]**

If a bowler is on a Gold medal winning Fours team, that bowler is not eligible to compete in the Singles Championship. [4/25]

If a bowler is on a Gold medal winning Triples team, that bowler is not eligible to compete in the Pairs Championship. [4/25]

2.2.1 Exceptions and Clarifications

- Certain players may relocate their principal residence from one province (the “original” province) to British Columbia during the year. **[06/18]**
- Players whose principal residence was in their “original” province, may compete in that province throughout the year. **[06/18]**
- The player, having moved their principal residence to British Columbia may, if the player has not already competed in an “original” province playdown, instead, compete in British Columbia upon application to the provincial associations of both their “original” province of residence and to Bowls BC. Upon approval of both provincial associations, the player may then compete in British Columbia playdowns and be considered a resident of British Columbia for these purposes. Should either, or both, provincial associations, reject the application, then the player may not compete in British Columbia playdowns. **[06/18]**
- iii) Players may not compete in provincial playdowns in more than one province in any calendar year. **[06/18]**

2.3 Entries

All Provincial Championships are Open Competitions.

Entry to a Provincial Championship by eligible bowlers is guaranteed if the appropriate on-line registration form, completed in full, and fee is received by Bowls BC on or before the closing date for each event.

- Entries to be completed online, at <http://bowlsbc.com/register>
- Entries must be paid in full in order to be considered valid.
- Entries received after the closing date will be placed on a wait list, in the order received.
- No entries will be accepted by any means other than the on-line registration form.
- EXCEPTION: If the number of guaranteed entries is an odd number, the DoO may place the last entrant on a waitlist or may add one or more player from the waitlist in order to make an even number of entrants, however, the DoO is under no obligation to add any or all waitlisted players. **[4/25]**

Entry fees are non-refundable after the closing date except for medical emergencies or for withdrawals in accordance with the following clause.

2.4 Withdrawals

An entry will be considered to have withdrawn from an event if the entry unilaterally terminates a game without the prior authorization of the PGD or the HEU, or is in default for more than one game.

An entry will be withdrawn for bowlers who are ineligible to compete due to restrictions specified in clause 2.2. **[4/25]**

An entry may otherwise withdraw from an event if injured or if there is a personal or family emergency.

When an entry withdraws from an event, the records of all matches completed prior to the withdrawal will stand. All remaining scheduled opponents, including an opponent of a commenced and uncompleted match with the withdrawing entry, will be awarded the win.

Section 3: CHAMPIONSHIP FORMATS

All games shall be played under the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, Crystal Mark Fourth Edition, 2022.

3.1 Match Composition

Separate men's and women's events will be staged, with the exception of the Mixed Pairs Championship.

3.2 The Draw

The draw shall be established by BBC. Every event will be a modified round robin format, with a win counting three (3) points, a tie counting one (1) point and nil (0) points for a game loss. The round robin play will be in accordance with the published draw schedule. **[4/25]**

3.3 Competition Formats

The conditions of play for each event are as follows:

| EVENT | # of BOWLS PER BOWLER | MATCH FORMAT | TIME LIMIT For all matches* |
|----------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Pairs | 3 | 12 ends | 2 hours |
| Triples | 2 | 12 ends | 2 hours |
| Fours | 2 | 12 ends | 2 hours |
| Mixed Pairs | 3 | 12 ends | 2 hours |
| Senior Triples | 2 | 12 ends | 2 hours |

*Time limit includes trial ends

Team Skips or a team representative must be present One Hour before the Start Time on the **first** day of the competition in the event adjustments have to be made to the draw. All other players are requested to report at least 30 minutes BEFORE the advertised Starting Time.

The start time for each round of the draw shall be posted in advance. However, if the draw has bowlers competing in two consecutive rounds, in order to ensure adequate time for meal breaks

between rounds, the actual start time for each round after the first round shall be a minimum of 20 minutes after the completion of the final match of the previous round. **[4/25]**

The Emergency Committee may delay, halt or cancel a round of matches due to severe weather conditions. The Provincial Games Director may appoint the Head Event Umpire as his/her alternate to the Emergency Committee.

The Emergency Committee may halt one or more games during a round, without halting all games, if the conditions on particular rinks warrant. Any game that is halted will re-commence from the point of stoppage, when, where and as the PGD/HEU directs.

The scorecards for all games must be initialed by each entry and submitted to the Head Event Umpire promptly following completion of the game. The Head Event Umpire in conjunction with the Championship convener will be responsible for recording results on the official score sheet.

3.4 Format of Play

- a) Modified round robin format.
- b) Bowls, Shoes and Membership Cards will be inspected by the Umpire(s) prior to commencement of play.
- c) Number of games to be played by each team is based on the number of entrants into the championship. (4 to 6 rounds)
- d) Bowls BC will be supplying bowls decals. All players on a team must ensure that they are all using matching decals on their bowls.
- e) There will be 3 rounds played on Friday starting at 10AM, depending on the number of teams.
- f) In the event the competition is being held at several venues; travel between greens will be kept at a minimum.
- g) If a match is tied upon completion of the game or if time is called then each team will be awarded 1 point.
- h) The Provincial Champion will receive a Bowls BC Gold Medal. A Bowls BC Silver Medal will be awarded to the runner-up and a Bowls BC Bronze Medal will be awarded to the entry finishing in third place.
- i) In addition, a Champion not already in possession of a current or acceptable Bowls BC uniform will receive a Bowls BC jacket and shirt.
- j) The Official Bowls BC uniform MUST be worn at all times when representing the province at National Events.

3.5 Trial Ends

After the start of a game, each player will be allowed two trial ends. Trial ends are at the discretion of each player. For trial ends, players may use the same number of bowls as they would in the game. Trial ends will commence at the start of the game time limit. There will NOT be a separate time for trial ends. **[4/25]**

Any player not ready to play at their official start time for any game shall forego their right to play trial ends.

3.6 The Game

An official signal shall be sounded to signal the scheduled starting time for each game. Any player arriving at the green more than ten minutes after the official signal has been sounded shall cause that team to forfeit such game to the opposition.

A team may also be awarded a game due to a Dress Code violation by a member of the opposing team.

If a game is forfeited, either as the result of the absence of a player or a Dress Code violation, the non-offending team will be awarded three game points, and a net total of shots that is equal to the average net total of shots scored by the winners of all other games played in the same round of the same event.

3.7 Final Standings

For Championships with twelve (12) or more players, the top eight players will progress to the knockout rounds and will be ranked in order as outlined in 3.8. **[6/25]**

For Championships with less than twelve (12) players the top four players will progress to the knockout rounds and will be ranked in order as outlined in 3.8. **[6/25]**

3.8 Knockout Rounds

Following the modified round-robin, for twelve teams or more, the top eight ranked entrants, in each discipline, will advance to the knockout rounds. **[6/25]**

Following the modified round-robin, for less than twelve teams, the top four ranked entrants, in each discipline, will advance to the knockout rounds. **[6/25]**

In the knockout rounds consisting of eight players, the top ranked player will play the eighth ranked player. The second ranked player will play the seventh ranked player. The third ranked player will play the sixth ranked player. The fourth ranked player will play the fifth ranked player. **[2/23]**

In the knockout rounds consisting of four players, the top ranked player will play the fourth ranked player. The second ranked player will play the third ranked player **[4/25]**

Procedure

The following format will be used **only** to rank knockout playoff players:

- a) Players will be ranked based on total number of match points accumulated during the round robin. If total match points are equal, the following will be used to rank the tied players:
- b) the player with the highest differential between points for and points against will be the winner. If differential points are equal, the following will be used to rank the tied players:
- c) the player with the highest ratio between points for and points against will be the winner. If the ratio points are equal, the following will be used to rank the tied players;
- a) If all the above are still equal, then the player with the largest number of ends won will be the winner;

During knockout games there must be no further play in a game if, at any point, it becomes impossible for one player to draw or win the game, given the number of ends left. If there is a tie at the end of a knockout game. The teams will coin toss for the selection of delivering the jack for a single-end tiebreaker. **[6/25]**

3.9 Re-Spot Rule

All games shall be played using the “re-spotting the jack” rule per section 56.5 of the Laws of the Sport:

Other circumstance may arise that will result in the end being declared 'dead'. If there is any confusion about the 're-spot' and/or 'dead end' rules, contact the HEU. The ruling of the HEU will be final.

Re-spotting the jack

- If a jack in motion passes completely outside the boundaries of the rink of play, comes to rest in any hollow in the face of the bank, or rebounds to a distance of less than 18 metres from the mat line, the end should not be declared dead. Instead, the jack should be placed with the nearest point of the jack to the mat line at the central 2 metre spot.
- If the spot is partly or completely covered by a bowl, the jack should be placed as close as possible to the covered spot, in line with that spot and the corresponding spot at the opposite end of the rink, without touching a bowl. Law 56.5.4.

3.10 Substitutions

Substitutions of any nature shall only be permitted following an application for and approval of PGD (or delegate). The team concerned will provide the circumstances and reasons for substitutions to the PGD.

If, after commencement of the opening round, a substitute is required, the following will apply.

- Substitutes may be allowed, in the event of illness or any unforeseen circumstance, once approved by the PGD, as follows:
- One (1) substitute will be permitted in pairs and triples, and two (2) in fours. The one substitution in pairs and triples may be filled by two individuals at different times. i.e., in pairs, one member of the original team must remain and in triples, two members of the original team must remain. The two substituted positions in fours may be filled by three different individuals, i.e., two members of the original team must remain.

For a substitute to be eligible to play in the tournament, the player must meet the following requirements:

- Be an individual in good standing with a club who is affiliated with BCB
- Be in good standing with BCB and their provincial association
- Meet the age restrictions, if any, for the tournament
- And must be of the correct gender for the team

Substitutes may not play in the skip position but may play in any other position. After playing any part of more than two consecutive matches any substitute becomes a member of the team and may play in any position, including skip. In the third consecutive match the substitute may play in any position.

Substitutes may only play continuously. For example, if a substitute is replaced by the original team member or by another substitute, then the substitute may not play again in the competition.

For the first day the substitute is involved in the tournament, the substitute will be exempt from the dress code. If a pool of potential substitutes are made available to the Emergency Committee prior to the commencement of the tournament, the substitutes should have access to suitable bowling attire.

There are no substitutions in singles. In the event of a singles player being unable to participate due to illness, opponents shall receive three game points, (two set wins if in sets play) and a net total of shots that is equal to the average net total of shots scored by the winners of all other

games played in the same round of the same event. When the singles player is able to resume play, he/she shall carry on with his/her record (from before the illness occurred) intact.

3.11 Time Limits

There will be a time limit specified for all games (see Section 3.3 for details), commencing when the signal for the start of the game is given. At the conclusion of this time period, another signal will be given at which point an end in progress must be completed but no new end may be commenced. Time limits will include trial ends. **[4/25]**

The definition of an end in progress is that the jack has been delivered by the first player to play in that end.

3.12 Deliberate Delay of Play

If the Umpire, either by their own observation or on appeal from the opposing skip or the opponent in singles, decides that a player is deliberately delaying the delivery of the player's bowl or the Skip is acting or issuing instructions designed to deliberately delay play:

- in the case of Singles, on the first occasion the umpire will warn the Player. If, in the opinion of the Umpire, the Player commits the same offence a second time, the end will be regarded as completed and the opponent of the offender will be awarded as many shots as are bowls in use for the match – in the case of Singles, this is four shots;
- in the case of Team Play, on the first occasion the umpire will warn the Team in the presence of the Skip. If, in the opinion of the Umpire, the Team commits the same offence a second time, the end will be regarded as completed and the opponents of the offender will be awarded as many shots as there are bowls in use for the match (for example, in the case of Fours, this would be eight shots).

Any stoppage of play due to time spent in discussion with the offending team or player in regards to the application of this rule will be added to the time limit of the game.

3.13 Restrictions on the Movement of Players During Play

After delivering their first bowl, players will only be allowed to walk up to the head under the following circumstances.

In exceptional and limited circumstances, a Singles player can ask the Marker for permission to walk up to the head, or a skip can ask that a player walks up to the head earlier than described in the paragraph above.

Pairs and Mixed Pairs game (3 bowls)

the leads: after delivery of their third bowls; and
the skips: after delivery of their second, and third bowls.

Triples game (2 bowls)

the leads: after the second player in their team has delivered their second bowl;
the seconds: after delivery of their second bowls;
the skips: after delivery of each of their bowls.

Senior Triples game (3 bowls)

the leads: after the second player in their team has delivered their second bowl;
the seconds: after delivery of their second bowls;
the skips: after delivery of each of their bowls.

Fours game (two bowls)

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; and
the leads and seconds must start each end at the mat end.

If a player does not meet the terms of this law, Law 13 will apply.

3.14 Bowls and Footwear Inspection

A bowls and footwear inspection shall be staged prior to the start of the competition. Random checking of bowls and footwear may occur prior to the commencement of games.

Individuals who compete in Provincial Playdowns – leading to National Championships – must use bowls that have visible legible stamps, which comply with the Laws of the Sport and have proper Provincial decals affixed.

Players will receive bowls decals prior to the start of the competition and will be responsible for removing all old decals and affixing tournament decals. If another set of bowls is required during the round robin (and prior to a round commencing), an Umpire will check the bowls and ensure new decals are affixed and that decals are removed from the original set of bowls.

At the bowls inspection, players should only be required to present the same number of bowls as they are playing with (i.e. 2 for triples, 3 for pairs and 2 for fours).

Old disc-type bowls and bowls stamped “coaching” will no longer be allowed for competition.

Bowls of any colour shall be permitted, as will be coloured dimples and rings on bowls so long as they shall not interfere with the decals.

Footwear shall conform to the specifications provided below. The Head Event Umpire will be responsible for enforcement of the footwear requirements.

3.15 Practice

Competitors may practice, according to Law 3.3 and Law 4, during the period (between games) provided that time permits, and that the practice does NOT interfere with greens maintenance activities, or officials' preparation for the next game.

A player or team that has not played due to a bye shall, if possible, be allowed to practice prior to playing a game.

3.16 Groundsheets

The Head Event Umpire, on the behalf of BBC can make the decision to use groundsheets at any time. The HEU will consult with the Greens Chairperson before deciding where the groundsheets will be placed on the green.

3.17 Umbrellas on the Green

No umbrellas (open or folded) shall be allowed on the green during championship play.

3.18 Dress Code

All participants must wear clean, appropriate and well-maintained clothing so as to present an appearance in keeping with the conduct of a Provincial Championship. The preferred color to be worn is white, however, coloured apparel will be permitted. The wearing of blue denim is prohibited.

Appropriate clothing guidelines for Provincial Championships:

- beach shorts, sweat pants and jeans are not acceptable attire;
- shorts and skirts/skorts are to be of a respectful length;
- shirts must be sleeved and have a collar or high neck;

- Shirts should be of a respectable length, pattern, and design.

T-shirts, muscle shirts, tank tops, and low neckline shirts are not acceptable attire.

A respectful length for shorts and skirts/skorts is considered to be no shorter than 4 inches above the knee.

Uniformity

Should a team wear colours, then ALL members of that team must wear the same color and style. The Head Event Umpire may notify any entry of a concern with regard to dress and the entry will be obligated to improve appearance before commencing the next match, failing which Disciplinary Action could be taken.

Footwear

All footwear shall have a flat sole and be heel-less, in accordance with latest requirements concerning footwear.

Rain Gear

No restrictions, but must be readily available at the rink.

Enforcement of Dress Code

The Head Event Umpire will be responsible for enforcement of the dress code and footwear requirements.

Other Changes to the Dress Code, due to "weather conditions", will be determined by the Emergency Committee.

Red Shirts are reserved for umpires.

3.19 Dress Code for Umpires

All Umpires, when on duty, shall wear a red BBC approved umpire shirt with black trousers, dress shorts, skirt or skorts. Umpires to wear red outerwear in the event of inclement weather.

[4/25]

3.20 Tobacco, Alcohol, Cell Phone and Verbal Abuse Policy

Smoking, including electronic cigarettes is only allowed in designated areas. This includes: competitors, umpires and markers.

Should an infraction occur, the respective player will be notified. Upon a further occurrence the offending player will be subject to a fine of \$100.00, to be immediately levied towards that player. If the player persists in violating this policy, and the fine has already been levied, the player shall be disqualified from further play during the current event. Should the tobacco and alcohol policy of the host club differ from that describe in this paragraph the most stringent policy shall apply.

No alcoholic beverages are to be consumed during play.

Verbal abuse of an opponent or official will not be tolerated. When profanity is used, the offending player will be subject to a fine of \$100.00, for a first offence and any further occurrence will cause suspension of the player from further games during the current championships. It is the responsibility of the player to ensure that the fine is paid immediately, before the next round commences.

No electronic communication or entertainment devices, such as two-way radios, cell phones, or music players shall be allowed on the green during championship play, including trial ends. All players shall be required to place their phones on silent or vibrate.

Any disciplinary action will be addressed according to BBC's Discipline and Complaints Policy.

3.21 Support Personnel

Each team shall be entitled to accredited support personnel at this event as follows:
Each team may designate a maximum of one accredited Bowls Coach, Manager, or support person.

If the team appoints an accredited coach, the coach must show their coaching accreditation to the Head Event Umpire prior to the start of a match. **All coaches of players under the age of 18 must present a copy of their Criminal Records Check** to the Head Event Umpire before the start of a match.

The Coach is permitted to give advice to his/her team, or player in a Singles game, from beyond the limits of the rink of play BUT only when their team or side is in possession of the rink. When seeking advice, the player(s) may step off the green should he/she desire.

Coaches may give advice to his/her team, or player in a Singles game, while an end is in play up to a maximum of three (3) times throughout the course of the game. Coaches may give advice between ends as frequently as required.

Each competitor under the age of 18 years at the time of the event must be accompanied by a chaperone for the duration of the competition. The name and contact information of the chaperone shall be provided to BBC and the Host committee prior to the start of the event. This chaperone may be in addition to the accredited coach mentioned above.

3.22 Penalties

Players who violate the Conditions of Play will be fined \$100.00 per player. If a player continues to violate the specific Condition of Play, or any other Condition of Play, they will be deemed ineligible for participation in BBC events for two (2) years after the conclusion of the event in which the violation occurred.

All players and officials shall conduct themselves in a manner that promotes goodwill between the participants and in the eyes of the spectators.

3.23 Forfeited Game(s)

It is the responsibility of each player to be aware of the start time for each game. If a start time is delayed by ten minutes the Head Event Umpire shall declare the game a forfeit - the loss registered to the offending team(s) and the opponents awarded a win.

An umpire, either upon request, or having noted specific infractions of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls or these Conditions of Play, will warn the offending player or players. If the Umpire then considers that the infractions are both continuing and deliberate, the game will be forfeited to the opponents.

When an entry forfeits a single match, the opponent will be awarded match points for a win and will be credited with shots for/shots against equal to the average of all other winning results recorded during the appropriate round in the whole event (not just a single section). The entry in default will receive shots for/shots against equal to the average of all losing results recorded during the appropriate round in the whole event (not just a single section).

When an entry has withdrawn from an event, all remaining scheduled opponents, including an opponent of a commenced and uncompleted match will be awarded match points for a win and will be credited with shots for/shots against equal to the average of all other winning results recorded during the appropriate rounds. The entry in default will receive shots for/shots against equal to the average of all losing results recorded during the appropriate rounds.

An entry will be considered to have withdrawn from an event if (a) the entry unilaterally terminates a match without the prior authorization of the PGD, or (b) misses more than any part of two matches.

If an entry has withdrawn from the event for any reason, then the following shall determine the impact on the remaining entrants:

- a. If the entry withdraws after one half or more of its scheduled matches have been fully completed then all previously played match results will stand as played. All remaining scheduled un-played matches will be considered “Forfeited” matches. The impact on the scheduled opponents is explained in point 4 above.
- b. If the entry withdraws before one half of its scheduled matches have been fully completed, then all previously played match results will be considered un-played and all results from those previously played matches will not be counted in any way. All remaining scheduled un-played matches, likewise, will be considered as un-played, and those matches will not be counted in any way.

3.24 Unsportsmanlike Conduct

No competitor is to act in any purposeful manner that directly or indirectly contravenes the “Laws of the Sport of Bowls (Crystal Mark Fourth Edition)”, or conditions of play.

Also at the discretion of the PGD or his/her designate; any player not acting in accordance with the Laws of the Sport, or the Conditions of Play will be subject to disciplinary action by the PGD or designate and/or Bowls B.C. disciplinary review.

3.25 Unspecified Conditions

Where the above Conditions of Play are silent the latest edition of the Bowls Canada Boulingrin Consolidated Conditions of Play for the Canadian Championships and Singles will apply.

Section 4: DUTIES OF THE PROVINCIAL GAMES DIRECTOR AND THE HOST CLUB

4.1 Duties of the Provincial Games Director

The PGD will organize and conduct Provincial Championships in a manner consistent with these Conditions of Play.

The Provincial Head Umpire will appoint the Head Event Umpire for any event, with the same authority as the PGD. **[4/25]**

When a situation occurs that is not contemplated by these guidelines, the ruling of the PGD will be final. In making any decision the PGD will give regard to the guiding principles for Provincial Championships.

4.2 Duties of the Host Club

The Host Club will convene the Provincial Championship on behalf of BBC. The Host Club will appoint a Championship convener who will also be appointed as a member of the Championship Emergency Committee.

Other duties are described in the BBC document ‘EVT003-Provincial Hosting Guidelines’
<http://bowlsbc.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/2017-Bowls-BC-Hosting-Guidelines-for-Provincial-Events-3.pdf>