

# MERRYLANDS BOWLING CLUB BY-LAWS

## 1. CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

### a. PREVAILING LAWS

- i. **LAWS & CONDITIONS OF PLAY:** All Club Championships shall be played under the domestic Regulations of the current World Laws of the Sport of Bowls (Crystal Mark Edition) and the current Conditions of Play of Bowls NSW unless otherwise posted by the Match Committee.
- ii. **CONDITIONS OF PLAY- Changes:** The Bowls Management Committee reserves the right to alter the prevailing Conditions of Play in order to bring each Championship event to a successful outcome.

### b. SCHEDULING GUIDELINES

- i. The Scheduled Dates of play shall be set by the Match Committee and applied through the Bowls Coordinator, and, unless otherwise stated, contestants are encouraged to play on Scheduled Date. Any matches played not on the schedule date, provided that the proposed date of play has been approved by the Bowls Office/Coordinator who will have checked/confirmed that (a) the proposed date/time is suitable (b) a rink is available and (c) the Green can be prepared beforehand, if needed, as long as the match is played in accordance to the Bowls NSW CoP.
  - ii. Contestant(s) unable to meet that requirement shall forfeit the game, unless, in consultation with the Match Committee, the Bowls Coordinator deems there to be Special/Exceptional circumstances and permit extension of that date of play.
  - iii. Club Championships are NOT to be scheduled for long weekends, public holidays or on Mothers' or Fathers' Days unless by mutual agreement between Contestants and approval of the Club Bowls Coordinator
  - iv. No matches are to be re-scheduled on a Monday as it is Green Maintenance Day.
- c. **INCLEMENT WEATHER:** In the case of extreme weather conditions, as per clause 4, the Club, through its delegated representatives, has the responsibility of deciding whether to permit players on the green, and if it is considered to be unsuitable or unsafe, the Club has the responsibility of closing the green by so advising any prospective players and posting high-visibility notices for the attention of its patrons. All matches for that day will be deferred to the next available playing date. Any matches that have not been completed due to inclement weather will be scheduled to be completed at the next available playing date. The Controlling Body reserves the right to alter or set new dates.
- d. **ATTIRE:** Contestants are required to wear current Club uniform, otherwise, as a lesser preference, traditional white/cream. Club coloured headwear is encouraged.

### e. SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR SINGLES MATCHES

- i. **MARKERS:** Unless otherwise stated by the Bowls Office/Coordinator, it is the responsibility of Entrants to organize a competent MARKER for the first round of a Singles Championship. In subsequent Scheduled rounds, the Loser is required to be available to mark the next-tier game (usually determined on the 'toss of a coin' between the two Losers of same-tier games). In the case of Non-Scheduled games, Contestants bear the responsibility of finding a Marker.
- ii. Markers are required to wear the current Club Pennant Uniform. The Controlling Body in extenuating circumstances may permit members to mark out of the correct uniform.

### CAUTIONARY NOTES

**OBLIGATIONS OF ENTRY INTO SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS:** By entering Singles Championships, contestants agree to make themselves available to mark a following game if they are Losers in the immediately previous round of that Championship. A penalty may be imposed on players failing to fulfil this obligation, eg. by being refused entry into a future Singles Club Championship(s).

**MARKER COMPETENCY:** Situations have occasionally arisen where contestants have experienced frustration with the ability of a person functioning as Marker for their game. For the First Round of Scheduled Games, the Match Committee/Bowls Coordinator should ensure that Markers are experienced/capable. However, in later rounds, Controlling Body of the day should advise any intending Marker(s) that he/she should ensure (in advance) that they are familiar with the basic obligations/duties/limitations of their role so as not to hinder the smooth progress/outcome of a game for

either contestant. **In case of doubt**, a Marker should consult the Umpire **prior to the game** to update their duties/obligations.

**f. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:** All players must be registered with Bowls NSW at Merrylands.

- i. SINGLE GENDER MAJOR EVENTS comprise of the Major Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours.
- ii. SINGLE GENDER MINOR EVENTS
  1. SINGLES: Is only open to players who have NOT won a Major or Minor Singles before (or higher i.e. Association singles), at ANY Club in any year.
  2. PAIRS: Is only open to players who have NOT won a Major or Minor Singles or Major Pairs before (or higher), at ANY Club in any year.
- iii. OPEN MINOR EVENTS- TRIPLES & FOURS: Open to players who have a verifiable NSW Open Pennant Grading no higher than Grade 4, or ungraded, on the Closing Date of Entry.
- iv. OPEN SENIOR EVENTS- SINGLES & PAIRS: Open to players aged 60 years or over, on the Closing Date of Entry.
- v. OPEN GRADED EVENTS: Open to players who have a verifiable NSW Open Pennant Grading, or are ungraded, on the Closing Date of Entry. Ungraded players will be allocated 7 points. See Appendix B for Conditions of Play.
- vi. MIXED PAIRS: Open to all players who shall play with a member of the opposite gender.
- vii. MIXED TRIPLES: Open to any of a combination of both genders of Merrylands Bowling Clubs. Players may play in any order.
- viii. OPEN JUNIOR EVENTS- SINGLES & PAIRS: Open to players aged under 18 years at the Scheduled Date of the Final.
- ix. OPEN CONSISTENCY SINGLES: Open to any Merrylands member, irrespective of grading. See Appendix A for Conditions of Play.
- x. OPEN NOVICE EVENTS- SINGLES & PAIRS: Open to Merrylands registered Players, who have been a registered bowler for three (3) years or less on the Closing Date of Entry. Previous Winners are ineligible to enter the same discipline.

**g. FORMAT OF GAME- Duration & Bowls Used**

- i. Singles- Major Senior & Minor..... 25 shots up      4 bowls
- ii. Singles- Novice.....21 shots up      4 bowls
- iii. Singles- Consistency ..... 150 points up      4 bowls
- iv. Pairs- Major, Minor & Mixed ..... 21 ends      4 bowls
- v. Pairs- Novice & Senior ..... 21 ends      3 bowls
- vi. Triples- Major ..... 25 ends      2 bowls
- vii. Triples- Minor & Mixed ..... 21 ends      2 bowls
- viii. Fours- Major & Minor ..... 21 ends      2 bowls
- ix. Juniors- determined by the Match Committee
- x. Graded Events- see appendix b

**h. Entry Numbers**

- i. For any Club Championships, if three entries are received, then, unless specified in the Bowls NSW CoP, the Championship with three entries will be run as a round robin event. The Committee may decide to alter the length of the matches to bring the event to a conclusion over one day.
- ii. For any Club Championship where only one entry is received, then that Club Championship will not be played in that year, unless that championship progresses to a higher level.

## **2. PENNANT**

- a. When a side Manager is required, the Selectors shall appoint such side Manager
- b. When a Coach is required, the Board of Directors shall appoint such Coach.
- c. Players participating in pennant trials must wear current Club Uniform or regulation dress if club uniform is unavailable to the member from the club.
- d. Players participating in pennant must wear the current Club uniform.
- e. Selections must be made no later than 4 days before a pennant round.
- f. Selected players must indicate their availability no later than 2 days prior to a pennant match.
- g. Players who know they will be unavailable for selection must indicate their unavailability prior to the sides for selected for round 1, and as soon as possible if personal circumstances change.
- h. Teams playing in State play-offs will have a Tour Manager appointed by the Board of Directors.

## **3. BOWLS – GENERAL**

- a. Singles Finals to be marked by
  - i. Major Singles – President
  - ii. Minor Singles – Vice President
  - iii. Other Singles – President
- b. If any of the above are unable or unwilling to mark they may nominate a suitable replacement.
- c. The Club shall pay entry fees for all bowlers representing the Club in all Bowls NSW events (composite teams are not eligible).
- d. In the event of vacant rinks being available during Bowls NSW matches, controlled practice or social matches may be approved by the controlling body.
- e. The Match Committee shall have the right to set and alter the local Conditions of Play to bring the event to a successful conclusion.
- f. Members are required to be in attendance and registered 15 minutes prior to the Call of Cards time for social bowls. If members arrive late, they face the possibility of not getting a game. Members who are running late are encouraged to call the Bowls Office and either advise the Bowls Organiser or leave a message indicating they are running late to avoid missing out on a game

## **4. EXTREME WEATHER POLICY**

- a. The most recent Bowls NSW extreme weather policy is to be used.

## **5. ELECTION PROCESS**

- a. Nominations forms will be available from the Club reception. Nominators and seconders, along with the nominee must be full bowling members of the Merrylands Bowling Club who are not employees or juniors members.
- b. Nominations will be posted on the notice board.
- c. Nominations will open thirty-five (35) days before the Annual General Meeting
- d. Nominations close twenty-one (21) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- e. The voting shall be conducted using the first past the post method and shall be by secret ballot to be conducted before the Annual General Meeting on papers prepared by the Registered Club.
- f. Voting will be open the 5 days before the AGM at times to be advised
- g. To vote, members will present their valid Club Membership card at the reception (admin. foyer), who shall then give the member the initial ballot paper(s) and mark off the member on an electronic list.
- h. All votes will be entered into a locked box, which will be stored in the safe when voting is not open. The locked box will not be opened until the time of counting at the Annual General Meeting.
- i. The votes will be counted immediately prior to the AGM.
- j. If voting is equal for two or more candidates a secret ballot at the AGM will be used to determine the successful candidate.

## **6. DUTIES OF THE ELECTED OFFICE BEARERS**

### **a. DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT:-**

- i. Attend and Chair the Annual General Meeting, any General Meetings and all Meetings of the Management Committee.
- ii. Attend the Annual General Meeting of the relevant Zone Bowling Association.
- iii. Attend Sub-Committee Meetings as required.
- iv. Represent the Club at all major functions and competitions or arrange an alternative representative from the Management Committee.

### **b. DUTIES OF THE VICE PRESIDENT:-**

- i. Attend all duly authorised Meetings of the Management Committee.
- ii. To assist the President as required, in the smooth functioning of the Club.

### **c. DUTIES OF THE BOWLS STAFF:-**

- i. Attend all duly authorised Meetings of the Management Committee(s).
- ii. Receive all correspondence and act on it accordingly.
- iii. Carry out the duties as requested by the Management Committee.
- iv. Issue all Notices as requested by the Management Committee.
- v. Display all Team Selections on the Notice Board.
- vi. Arrange for Umpires, as required.
- vii. Display all relevant notices on the Notice Board.
- viii. Formulate the proposed dates for all Committee Meetings at the first Meeting of the Management Committee held after the Annual General Meeting and forward details to the Chief Executive Officer of the Registered Club and to all Committee Chairpersons.
- ix. Act as Minutes Secretary at Management Committee meetings.
- x. Prepare a transcript of all meetings of the Management Committee and submit a copy to the Management Committee and Board of Directors no later than fourteen 14 days following the meeting.
- xi. Attend Sub-Committee Meetings as required.
- xii. Act as Controlling Body or appoint Controlling Body when required.

### **d. DUTIES OF MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:-**

- i. Attend all duly authorised meetings.
- ii. Perform all duties as required for the Club events.
- iii. Assist the Bowls Staff in the organizing of social bowls and other items as required.
- iv. Attend annual workshop (if held) on the duties of the Controlling Body.

### **e. DUTIES OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF SELECTORS:-**

- i. Attend, Convene and Chair all meetings of the Selection Committee.
- ii. Submit lists of selected Representative Teams to the Bowls Staff immediately following the selection meeting.
- iii. Submit a written report if necessary to the Bowls Staff not later than five (5) days prior to the next Management Committee meeting.
- iv. Attend Management Committee meetings (as required).

### **f. DUTIES OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE:-**

- i. To elect the Chairman at their first meeting following the Annual General Meeting of the Club.
- ii. The Selection Committee shall meet when required.
- iii. Select teams for all Pennant trials, Pennant Matches and other events as required.
- iv. Ensure players selected in representative sides are informed of their selection.
- v. Assist the Bowls Staff in the organizing of social bowls and other items as required.

g. **DUTIES OF THE UMPIRES:-**

- i. To officiate at all events as required by the Bowls Staff.
- ii. At least one (1) Umpire per green shall be appointed to be in attendance at the following scheduled matches or competitions:
  1. Club Championships;
  2. State Championships;
  3. State Pennant matches; and
  4. Such other events as determined by the Bowls Organiser or the Management Committee.
- iii. An umpire is not required when a match is to be played prior to the scheduled date
- iv. Accredited National Umpires who are officiated and not playing in any match shall be paid such fees as determined by the Board of Directors.
- v. Umpires shall wear such uniform as supplied by the Club or as determined by the relevant Controlling Body.
- vi. The Club shall supply suitable umpiring equipment as defined in the Laws of the Sport of Bowls and shall ensure that such equipment is maintained in good working order.

## Appendix A

### OPEN CONSISTENCY SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP CONDITIONS OF PLAY

#### 1. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY & MARKING.

- a. This championship is open to all men and women who are Full Bowling Members of the Merrylands Bowling Club. Players may be graded or ungraded.
- b. It is also a requirement that should any entrant lose a preliminary round, he/she must be available to be a Marker or be responsible for providing a Marker for any subsequent game. Failure to satisfy this requirement may result in a penalty, such as exclusion from entering other Club Championships as will be determined by the Bowls Committee. It is expected that Markers be formally attired in his/her Club uniform or according to Bowls NSW guidelines.

#### 2. FORMAT OF GAME.

- a. The game is essentially one played as a Singles game, overseen by a Marker, and is played in conformity with the current 'Bowls Australia- Laws of the Sport of Bowls' (Crystal Mark Edition).
- b. As in a normal Singles Championship, each bowler delivers 4 bowls, in alternate sequence, to be as close as possible to the Jack which remains at a 'fixed' location on the rink during an end.
- c. However, there is a limitation..... should the Jack be moved/driven into the Ditch or Out-of-Bounds during the course of play, the end is automatically terminated and the maximum points (10) for that end will be awarded to the opponent of the Player who caused this outcome. Normally, there is no scoreless end in this game.

#### 3. OBJECT OF THE GAME.

- a. Once the Jack has been rolled by the Player beginning the end, the Marker places a flat washer centrally on the rink at that distance from the mat, and mounts the jack on it, where it remains, or to where it is returned (see Cl.4), for the duration of the end. Players alternately deliver their bowls to try to ensure a maximum of his/her Bowls are closest to that Jack, and the nearest bowls are allocated a score (see Scoring, Cl.5). The game continues until at the conclusion of an end, one Player has accumulated 150 points or more and is declared the winner. The player with the higher score from the previous end will roll the jack and play first. If both players score the same points, the player who went first on the previous end will again go first and roll the jack.

#### 4. DISPLACEMENT OF JACK.

- a. Anytime during the course of play, should the Jack be moved off the washer by a Bowl, with the Jack remaining in play on the Rink (not in the Ditch), the Marker will place the Jack back on the washer (however, see Cl.5 B below). If the delivered Bowl has made direct contact with the Jack and remains 'alive' within the rink boundaries (including, in the Ditch), it shall be marked as a 'Toucher' by the Marker.
- b. If a resting Bowl partially obstructs the washer so that it is not possible to place the Jack back on the washer, the Jack shall be placed so that its nearest part is as close as possible to the centre of the washer.
- c. If a resting bowl totally obscures the washer, the Jack is placed behind, and in contact with, the obstructing Bowl, where it remains until the Marker can replace it on the washer. The Marker must watch for this during the remainder of the end as the obstructing Bowl may be sufficiently moved by a subsequent bowling action.
- d. If at the completion of the end, a bowl(s) is covering the washer, once the bowl(s) that is covering the washer is counted, the jack is immediately replaced on the washer for further measurements.

## 5. SCORING.

- a. At the conclusion of each end played, Players decide by mutual agreement (and measurement, if necessary)-
  - i. the closest bowl to the Jack, which is worth 4 points,
  - ii. the 2nd nearest bowl, which is worth 3 points,
  - iii. the 3rd nearest bowl, which is worth 2 points, and
  - iv. the 4th nearest bowl, which is worth 1 point.
  - v. if bowls are tied, the points of the bowls that are tied are added and then divided by the number of bowls that are tied to work out the score for each bowl.
  - vi. There can be no more than 10 points scored on any end.
- b. The 5th nearest and all other remaining 'live' bowls are worth 0 points.
- c. Under normal circumstances, the total points allocated for each end is 10 points.
- d. However, if 3 or fewer bowls remain 'live' on the rink of play, the total points allocated for an end can be less than 10.

## 6. DECIDING THE WINNER.

- e. As cited in Clause 3, play continues until at the conclusion of an end (where each player has delivered 4 bowls), one Player has accumulated a minimum of 150 points and the other has accumulated less than 150 points.
- f. If after the particular end, both Players have accumulated a minimum of 150 points, then the Player with the higher score is declared the Winner.
- g. If after the particular end, both Players have accumulated 150 points and therefore, are tied, further end(s) must be played until one Player achieves a higher score than the other and can be declared the Winner.

## Appendix B

### 1. Open Graded Events

- a. The Graded Pairs, Triples and Fours to be played as a one-day event, with multiple short games, with the highest ranked teams qualifying for finals.

### 2. Conditions of play:

- a. Graded Pairs (7 points), 3 bowl pairs played over five games of 8 end games.
- b. Graded Triples (10 points), 2 bowl triples played over five games of 8 end games.
- c. Graded Fours, played over 6 end games. (All entries for the graded fours are to be single names, with players selected into four different groups. The first group will be the best players, the second group the next best players and so on. Each team will have one player randomly drawn from each group)

### 3. Format:

- a. Blind draw, tournament play
- b. Teams will be ranked on wins, draws (2 draws = 1 win), highest margin, ends won, percentage and if still even the controlling body will determine a way to separate sides.
- c. 1<sup>st</sup> rank vs 4<sup>th</sup> rank and 2<sup>nd</sup> rank vs 3<sup>rd</sup> rank in the semi-finals with the winners advancing to the final. If any finals match is tied after the completion of allocated ends, then an extra end(s) will be played until there is a winner.
- d. There will be no "dead" ends, if the jack moves outside the boundaries of the rink it will be placed on the centre line at 2 metre mark.
- e. Gradings will be based on the player's current Open Pennant Grade. Ungraded players will be allocated 7 points.
- f. 9:30am start. Lunch taken after round 3.
- g. No trial ends.
- h. The Committee may alter the length of games or amount of rounds to bring a conclusion to the event on the day.