

GBR RULES FOR COMPETITION 2017-18

GENERAL

1.1 All competitions will be conducted under the Laws of the Sport of Lawn Bowls, Bowls Australia Domestic Regulations and, except where provided for in these Regulations, Bowls Victoria Regulations and Rules for Competition.

1.2 Subscriptions, fees and charges are payable in accordance with notices issued by the Region and any Club or Player not complying with the terms of notices may be deprived of the privileges of the Region.

1.3 Affiliated Clubs are required to make their green or greens available for the playing of any competition or game under the control of the Region. Failure to do so by a Club may lead to termination of affiliation entitlements.

1.4 Consumption of Alcohol

The consumption of alcoholic beverages (defined as any beer, wine, spirit, spirit mixer of any drink containing alcohol, is not permitted at any BV controlled event. An event is defined as any BV State Championship or Region Sides Championships. A participating Player must not consume alcohol whilst a game or match is in progress. If a participating Player is observed to be consuming alcohol (other than a Player in a Team in a Side game whose Team has completed its game) by the Umpire he will warn the Player and advise his Skip, the Manager and/or the Controlling Body. In relation to GBR Pennant alcohol is not permitted on the green under any circumstances whilst a game is in progress on the green in question. If the Player is found to be consuming alcohol on a second occasion the Umpire will immediately suspend him from play for the remainder of the day. Should this penalty be applied, no replacement or substitute player will be allowed for his/her team. In a Team game, the defaulting Team will forfeit the game to their opponent and in a Side game BA Domestic Regulations 2.5.1.1., 2.5.1.2 and 2.5.1.3 will apply.

1.5 Smoking

Smoking (defined as having a lit cigarette, pipe, cigar, electronic nicotine delivery system (ENDS) including e-cigs, e-cigarettes and any other form of smoking device) on the green is not permitted under any circumstances by participating Players at any time whilst a game is in progress. If a player is observed to be smoking on the green by the Umpire he/she will warn the Player and advise his/her Skip, the Manager and/or the controlling body. If the player is found to be smoking on a second occasion the Umpire will immediately suspend him/her from play for the remainder of the day. Should this penalty be applied, no replacement or substitute will be allowed for his/her Team.

ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS FOR EVENTS

2.1 Club Championships

A bowler is only permitted to play Club Singles, Pairs, Triples and/or Fours championships with one Club in a season and that Club will be the Club with which the bowler is identified for the purpose of pennant competitions. Where, mid-season, a bowler becomes identified with another Club through proper clearance procedures; the requirements stand (i.e. one Club for club championships and that to be the nominated or identified Club).

2.2 Bowls Victoria Events

Subject to any applicable restrictions as to gender, affiliated bowlers are eligible to enter Region and State Championship events and, for all team events, entries may comprise bowlers from the same Club or in any combination of bowlers from any Club within the Region.

2.3 Region Events Other than Pennant

In addition to State events, the Region may conduct events each season under such conditions as determined by the Board from time to time.

CONDUCT OF PENNANT COMPETITIONS

3.1 Eligibility of Clubs

Affiliated Clubs may enter sides in the Region's Pennant competitions subject to the Club being able to provide adequate numbers of rinks for home matches.

Sides will be graded in numerical sequence as 2, 3, 4, etc. in descending order of their ability.

Timing of Greens and Recommended Green Speeds

3.2 Greens may be timed by the umpire with a member of the opposing side not less than 30 minutes and not more than 45 minutes prior to the commencement of each pennant match and the green speed displayed on a suitable notice board at the venue.

3.3 The recommended green speed for pennant is in the range 13 to 17 seconds. In response to genuine complaints, the Region's Greens Committee has the authority to check offending greens and, should improvement be necessary, corrections must occur within two weeks of appropriate notice being given to the Club. Failure to achieve this will result in approval for the use of the green/s being withdrawn until the recommended speed guidelines are achieved.

Selection of Players

3.4.1 Selection of players for pennant competitions will be based on merit with players selected for sides in descending order of ability.

3.4.2 Male bowlers are not eligible for selection in Midweek Pennant competitions in the position of skip and not more than two male bowlers to be selected in any team of four playing in Midweek Pennant. Sides defaulting in relation to this rule shall incur the same penalties which apply to sides forfeiting matches, with opponents receiving all match points and shots in accordance with rule 5.6

3.5 Interchange of Players

For the last four rounds of Sectional play no side shall include more than 3 players who have played the majority of their games, prior to the fourth last game, in a higher graded side and no player should be demoted more than one Division, or to the Club's next lower side, in this process. Any club seeking consideration to select sides outside these provisions must put a written request to the Pennant committee for consideration.

3.6 Bowls Discs

If club colored discs are to be used, all members of the club must affix discs to their bowls for pennant games.

3.7 Pennant Forfeits

Where a club has insufficient players, including substitutes where appropriate, to field all sides entered in a pennant competition, and a forfeit is necessary, the lowest grade side for the club is the side which must forfeit.

3.8 Withdrawals and Walkovers

Withdrawal of a side from a pennant competition after the draw has been made by the Pennant Committee may incur a fine of \$250.00 to the offending Club payable within 14 days of demand by the Region Executive. Any Club giving a walkover will incur a fine of \$50.00 per side per week.

3.9 Fines

Where a club incurs a fine in respect of default by a pennant side, the side concerned shall be ineligible to compete in matches until payment of such fine is received by the Secretary of the Region.

Promotion and Relegation

3.10 The Region's pennant competitions are run primarily on the basis of a promotion and relegation system involving two sides up and two sides down. However, the final determination of sides to be promoted and relegated is a matter for the Pennant Committee's consideration each year having regard to the number of sides candidate clubs have in relevant divisions and to any necessary structural changes envisaged for the competition.

3.10.1 If a side is unable to be promoted due to the application of Rule 6.1 then the next highest ranking side shall be promoted.

Appointment of Umpires

3.11 Prior to commencement of each pennant match the home club shall appoint an Umpire and Green's Director or the nominated representative for that match.

3.11.1 The Manager and the Umpire MUST NOT be the same person.

Inclement Weather

3.12 In this rule "weather" means wet weather, lightning, and excessive heat, excessive Wind or dust or any other similar like weather conditions that affect play.

The Geelong Bowls Region Pennant committee, or its appointed sub-committees, shall have the authority to determine, **up to two hours before the scheduled commencement of play**, whether or not all play will be abandoned for the day.

3.13 Where play is abandoned, all clubs shall be advised of the decision as soon as possible and all matches (other than finals) scheduled for that day shall be deemed ties and points allotted accordingly.

3.14 Where a decision to abandon play is not made by the Pennant Committee, the Green's Director or a person carrying out the duties of Green's Director has sole authority to determine whether a Club's green or greens are fit for play. Should the Green's Director, or the nominated representative, decide, prior to the arrival of visiting sides, that the green or greens are closed for the day, prompt telephone advice should be communicated to opposition Club.

3.15

Midweek Pennant - If due to inclement weather a match has not commenced by 11.30 (before Xmas) and before 11.00am (after Xmas) it will be abandoned.

Saturday Pennant - if due to inclement weather a match has not commenced by 2.00pm it will be abandoned.

3.16 If due to inclement weather the start of a Pennant match has been delayed or interrupted in accordance with rule 3.14 and the match has not been completed before 4.00pm for a midweek match or 6.30pm for a Saturday match, it will then be abandoned, but if play is in progress at 4.00pm for a Midweek Match or 6.30pm for a Saturday match, it will be abandoned thereafter upon the interruption or completion of any end or ends in play at 4.00pm for a Midweek Match and 6.30pm for a Saturday Match.

3.17 Where play has commenced and subsequently due to consideration of the weather one side wishes to leave the green, both side can leave the green but must remain in the vicinity whilst the Umpire resolves the issue.

3.18 Where play has commenced and has been stopped owing to inclement weather or because the Green's Director or the nominated representative declared the relevant green unfit for play, it shall not be resumed if the green remains closed for play, but if otherwise, the Managers shall decide whether to resume or not, other than under the heat policy. Failing an agreement the decision shall rest with the Umpire.

3.19 If the Pennant Committee representatives have not determined that all play shall be abandoned for the day owing to inclement weather and a Sectional match is subsequently abandoned it will count as a tie providing that if the scores are such that one Side must win the match if all the remaining ends were played, that Side will be awarded the match with the scores as at the abandonment match.

3.19.1 If a result has not been achieved in 60% of matches in a Division all matches in that Division shall count as tie.

3.19.2 Despite anything contained in this Rule, Side Managers may, by mutual agreement abandon the game at any time due to the prevailing weather conditions if a resumption of play is unlikely.

3.20 Code Red Fire Danger Rating Days

If the day before a scheduled GBR game a Code Red Fire Danger Rating Day is forecast and announced by the Bureau of Meteorology for the Central Fire District for the day of play all GBR Pennant will be abandoned for that day and points shared.

3.21 Total Fire Ban Day

If a Total Fire Ban Day is declared for the Central Fire District for the day of Midweek or Saturday Pennant play shall be abandoned and points shared.

Heat Policy

3.22.1 For the purposes of determining the temperature – each Club shall provide an approved heat sensor to be located in a position approved by an independent weather services person - and such approval forwarded to the GBR Secretary and Pennant Committee every 2 years. Such placement and approval must be made within the last two weeks prior to the beginning of such Pennant season.

3.22.2– No attempt can be made to affect heat sensor equipment to give an 'abnormal' reading. If any such attempt is made to affect a reading, then the offending club may be penalised including –

but not limited to – loss of points and/or a financial penalty approved by the GBR Board.

3.22.3– The only Authorised person to be involved with the temperature reading sensor on the day are the respective Side Managers or their Nominees. Every reading of the heat sensor must be done at all times by a minimum to two of the aforementioned persons, that, then in turn may affect the continuance or stoppage of play.

If the Maximum Temperature is reached and play continues (apart from finishing the end in play) the offending Club will be penalized including – but not limited to – loss of points and/or a financial penalty approved by the GBR Board.

3.22.4.1– MIDWEEK PENNANT. For the application of this rule the following temperatures shall be clearly marked as the ‘threshold’ temperatures.

(Pre-match) - Play will not commence if the temperature has reached 34 degrees Celsius at 10.30am before Xmas and 10.00am after Xmas. The commencement of the match will be suspended until the temperature falls below 34 degrees Celsius, and if play has not commenced by 11.30am (pre Xmas) and 11.00am (post Xmas), then the match will be abandoned. If it is unlikely that the temperature will drop below 34 degrees Celsius the Side Managers may by mutual agreement abandon the game and share the points available. Any disputes that may arise are to be referred to the venue clubs officially appointed umpire of the day whose decision will be final.

(During Game) - If play has commenced and the Temperature reaches 34 degrees Celsius or above at any time on the Pennant Day then play will be suspended until such time as the temperature falls back below 34 degrees Celsius. (All play will be abandoned at 4.00pm as per the provisions of rule 3.16). Every effort must be made to complete any ends in progress prior to leaving the green for the suspension of play.

IF PLAY IS SUSPENDED DUE TO HEAT AND THE GAME IS NOT RECOMMENCED WITHIN 1 HOUR OF THE CESSATION OF PLAY, THEN THAT GAME WILL BE ABANDONED IMMEDIATELY.

3.22.4.1 SATURDAY PENNANT. For the application of this rule the following temperatures shall be clearly marked as the ‘threshold’ temperatures.

(Pre-match) - Play will not commence if the temperature has reached 36 degrees Celsius at 1.00pm. The commencement of the match will be suspended until the temperature falls below 36 degrees Celsius, and if play has not commenced by 2.00pm then the match will be abandoned. If it is unlikely that the temperature will drop below 36 degrees Celsius the Side Managers may by mutual agreement abandon the game and share the points available. Any disputes that may arise are to be referred to the venue clubs officially appointed umpire of the day whose decision will be final.

(During Game) - If play has commenced and the Temperature reaches 36 degrees Celsius or above at any time on the Pennant Day then play will be suspended until such time as the temperature falls back below 36 degrees Celsius. (All play will be abandoned at 6.30pm as per the provisions of rule 3.16). Every effort must be made to complete any ends in progress prior to leaving the green for the suspension of play.

IF PLAY IS SUSPENDED DUE TO HEAT AND THE GAME IS NOT RECOMMENCED WITHIN 1 HOUR OF THE CESSATION OF PLAY, THEN THAT GAME WILL BE ABANDONED IMMEDIATELY

For other rules re heat refer to inclement weather Rules 3.12 to 3.22.5

3.22.5 Despite anything contained in this Rule Side Managers may, by mutual agreement abandon the game at any time due to the prevailing conditions if a resumption of play is unlikely.

3.22.6 For other Rules re inclement weather refer to Rules 3.12 -3.19.2.

3.23 Finals Play and Abandonment

Provisions contained herein and relating to abandoning play have no application to finals matches.

3.24 Death At The Club/Green

If after the commencement of any Pennant Match a death occurs, then all matches in progress at the Club at which the death occurs shall be terminated and points allotted as per Rule 3.19

PENNANT FINALS

4.0 The starting and finishing times in Rule 3.15 and 3.16 and Conditions of Play, in Finals, may be altered at the discretion of the Pennant Committee

4.1 A player shall be ineligible to play a pennant final unless he/she had during that season played an aggregate of not less than four matches (whether completed or not) in the side competing in the finals or in one or more lower Divisions and must have played four games for the Club in the actual competition. (The Saturday Pennant Competition and the Midweek Pennant Competition are separate competitions and games played in one competition do not count towards player eligibility in the other competition). For Finals no player should be demoted more than one division, or to the Clubs next lowest side.

4.2 To determine all Division winners a final series shall be conducted as follows:

Day 1: Qualifying Match - 1 vs 2 and Elimination match- 3 vs 4

Day 2: Preliminary Final - Loser of Qualifying Match vs Winner of Elimination Match

Day 3: Grand Final - Winner of Qualifying Match vs Winner of Preliminary Final

4.3 If a result cannot be obtained in a Grand Final even after one further attempt to complete has failed due to inclement weather the side holding top position after the Preliminary Final may be deemed the winner of the Division.

4.4 With the exception of Division 1 of Saturday Pennant, every effort will be made by the Pennant Committee to arrange for all finals and grand finals to be played on traditional or regular playing days. Division 1 Saturday pennant Grand Final may be scheduled for play on a Sunday.

4.5 No player shall be eligible to play in two Saturday pennant grand finals or two Midweek grand finals.

4.6 In any pennant final, the result shall be determined by the total shots scored by each side without regard to team wins. If total shots are equal at the conclusion of the fixed number of aggregate ends, a further end or ends shall be played by all teams in the sides until a majority score is reached by one of the opponents who shall then become the winner.

4.7 In the event of any pennant final being affected by adverse circumstances forcing a postponement the Umpire shall note the position of the match and it shall be continued from the existing stage at a time appointed and under conditions imposed by the Pennant Committee.

4.8 Umpires appointed to officiate Pennant finals shall be selected from a pool of all accredited umpires from within the Region who are not participating in Pennant Final matches.

OTHER PENNANT RULES SPECIFIC TO PARTICULAR COMPETITIONS

MIDWEEK PENNANT

5.0 Format

Subject to consideration of numbers of entries and other factors, Pennant shall consist of multiple Divisions with a maximum of 12 sides in each and with each side comprising a maximum of four teams of four players. To facilitate higher participation, the Region, after consultation with appropriate Committees, may determine that one or more Divisions contain fewer than 12 sides or incorporate Byes and may also determine that a lower Division or a number of lower Divisions operate with 2 teams of four players.

5.1 Number of Sides per Club

Each Club is restricted to having not more than two sides in any Division.

5.2 Permits

This form MUST be completed for an Affiliated Member who wishes to Represent a Club other than their Nominated Club in a BV Pennant competition; such as two metropolitan Clubs or one metropolitan and one country Club or vice versa. Permission to play for two country Clubs must be submitted to BV for the BV Pennant Permit to be issued. All Pennant Permits EXPIRE on 30 June irrespective of when issued; application must be made for a new permit prior to the start of each season.

An affiliated member of Bowls Victoria may play in a Midweek (Monday – Friday inclusive) Pennant Competition or Saturday Pennant competition for a Member Club other than the member's Nominated Member Club provided both clubs sign the applicants BV Pennant Permit Request Form.

All permits must be applied for and issued prior to Round 4 of the respective Pennant Season; NO permits will be issued after the respective competitions Round 4. Once a Permit is issued that player must play out the whole season and is not permitted to revert to playing for their Nominated Club during that season. If a player applies and is granted a Clearance from their Nominated Club during the currency of the Permit it automatically expires and a new Permit will not be issued.

Commencement and Lunch

5.3 Trial Ends: One trial end each way may be played commencing 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. Trial ends shall cease if incomplete at the scheduled start time. Commencement of all pennant matches shall commence at 10.30 a.m. before Christmas and 10.00 a.m. after Christmas, including finals. Lunch should be taken at 12.15 p.m. all season. Thirty minutes to be allowed for lunch, commencing from when the last rink finishes.

5.4 Welcomes

The welcome at the Home Club can be performed by any person nominated by the club.

5.5 Duration of Matches

For sides with Four Teams, each to play 25 ends, an aggregate of 100 ends to be played with dead ends to be replayed. For sides with 3 teams, each to play 25 ends, an aggregate of 75 ends shall be played with dead ends to be replayed. For sides with 2 teams, each to play 25 ends, an aggregate of 50 ends shall be played with dead ends to be replayed.

5.6 Sectional Play – Ranking of Sides

The order of sides in each Division shall be determined by the total points gained by each side, then shots up and then percentage.

Points shall be allocated as follows:

Side Win	10 Points
Side Tie	5 Points
Team Win	2 Points
Team Tie	1 Point

Walkover or Forfeit:

Side with 4 Teams: 18 points and plus 16 shots

Side with 3 Teams: 16 points and plus 12 shots

Side with 2 Teams: 14 points and plus 8 shots

Defaulting sides shall receive no points and minus the number of shots awarded to their opponents.

5.6.1 In Home and Away Sectional play, if two or more sides have the same number of points, the ranking of sides shall be determined by total points. In cases where matches are tied on shots but one side has gained a greater number of points, that side shall be credited with a win for that game for the purpose only of this rule and no additional points shall be involved.

5.7 Fees for Finals Matches

\$6-00 Per Player, Managers and Emergencies \$4-00 to be paid to venue host club.

SATURDAY PENNANT

6.0 Format

As per 5.0

6.1 No. of Sides per Club

Each Club is restricted to having not more than one side in Premier Division and not more than two sides in any other Division.

Commencement and Practice

6.2 Commencement of all pennant matches, including finals, shall be 1.00 p.m., with two trial ends to be completed before that time.

6.2.1 Clubs, with the advance approval of the Pennant Committee may mutually elect to start at a different time.

6.2.2 No play is permitted on Sunday unless special approval is given by the Geelong Bowls Region.

6.2.3 A player will not play in more than one side in the same round of Pennant.

6.2.4 Visiting players are not permitted to practice at the Venue Club on match day unless prior permission is granted by The Host Club

6.2.5 Duration of Matches – As Per 5.0

6.3 Sectional Play – Ranking of Sides, Walkovers & Forfeits, Fees for Final Matches

As Per Rules 5.6, 5.6.1, 5.7

APPEALS OR PROTESTS

7.0 Any and all protests and/or reports of matters arising in the application of these rules must be notified – initially – by means of telephone or direct audio means – to the GBR Secretary by no later than 24 hours after the final end in the game affected is completed. This then must be followed by the same protest and/or report- in full detail – in writing from the affected Club Secretary within the following two (2) calendar days.