



## Bowls Committee Procedure

<b>6.0.0 Pennant Participation and Selection</b>	Approval Date:	7/03/2022
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<b>President:</b>	Approved: Refer Minutes of 7/03/2022	Name: Joe Issell
<b>Secretary:</b>	Approved: Refer Minutes of 7/03/2022	Name: Brendan Gaudion

### PURPOSE

The main form of competition between bowls clubs is Pennant and it allows all skill levels of bowlers to play regular competitive games against players who are roughly of their standard and it is a format played across Australia, in Victoria administered by Bowls Victoria, through the Geelong Bowls Region.

- This procedure provides information on and an understanding of playing and selection processes for Pennant bowls for Torquay Bowls Club interested affiliated members. This procedure encourages everyone to consider playing and representing the Torquay Bowls Club in the Geelong Bowls Region pennant system.

### PROCEDURE SCOPE

This procedure involves any affiliated member of the TBC who plays or has an interest in playing Pennant Bowls

### PROCEDURE INTENT

- To encourage TBC affiliated members to consider playing Pennant Bowls
- To field the most competitive sides available in each division of the Saturday and Midweek pennant competition
- For each division entered, win each week, finish in the top four, with a vision to go on and win Pennants
- To give every player who commits for the entire season as many games as possible
- Aim to develop players for the future, as well as look for success in the upcoming season
- Through coaching and practice, improve the performance of players, as individuals and sides, for a more consistent Pennant outcome for the Torquay Bowls Club
- To treat all players with fairness, and without discrimination; and in doing so, generate consistency, certainty and transparency to side selections and team outcomes.

### 1.1 Pennant Bowls

#### a. Eligibility

- Full financial affiliated members of the Torquay Bowls Club who make themselves available for selection in either Midweek or Saturday Pennant Competitions.

#### b. Selection Guidelines

- The selectors shall apply the following guidelines to the best of their judgement without bias or favour.
- Using the guidelines, the Selection Committee will select the sides that will give the Club the best chance of achieving the previously stated objectives in each division the Club enters.



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- The Selection Committee acknowledge that this will from time to time, require valuing compatibility above individual prowess, and that when applied, will make a side better than the sum of its parts.
- The Selection Committee recognise that a side can gel into a competitive unit, given time, shared experience and opportunity. To that end, the Selection Committee will be looking to create cohesive sides, that together are stronger, more competitive and that also give the opportunity for individual improvement.

### c. Selection Considerations:

- Player availability
- Player **current** ability, their performance in Pennant games, performance in Club social and championship games, a demonstrated ability at practice, competitiveness and commitment
- Voting system to be used as a guide for player selection
- Player commitment to the pennant successes of the Torquay Bowls Club demonstrated by his/her willingness to practice and improve skills and through leadership and advice to other players
- Team balance, consistency and compatibility, recognising that a spread of particular skills is needed across all divisions
- The need to foster and develop all players potential, including specific skills for all rink positions.

### d. Selection Process:

- Teams for Saturday pennant are selected on a Monday evening and will be displayed at the club and on the website on a Tuesday morning.
- Teams for Midweek pennant are selected on a Thursday after Tuesday Pennant and are available for viewing later that day.
- You must play in the selected position.
- For Saturday Pennant each selector is responsible for at least one side. They are available to discuss selection issues.
- If you have placed your name on the Pennant List the selection committee will assume that you are available.
- If you will be unavailable to play pennant on any particular week you must put your name on the 'Unavailable for Pennant' list for Saturday and/or Midweek for that particular week (asap).
- If you have been selected to play for the coming week but suddenly become unavailable you must contact one of the selectors (preferably the one allocated to your side) immediately.

### e. Player Expectations:

Having nominated to play Pennant bowls and contribute to the Club's pennant objectives, the following guidelines are set out to give players an indication of what is expected of them:

- Players committed to the full season and who are willing to play as selected in any division will be favourably regarded.
- Players who limit who they will or won't play with, the position they will play (except for medical reasons), or division they must be selected in as a condition of their availability may affect their selection outcome.
- Players who become unavailable for any reason (in fairness to others) will not be automatically reinstated in the same rink, position or division in which they last played
- Players must advise, any dates they will be unavailable (by posting on the pennant board) as soon as they are known.
- A Player who becomes unavailable following selection, should notify one of the Selection Committee assigned to their Division as soon as practicable.
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- Any late withdrawal of players prior to a game will be managed by the available selectors at their discretion and in the best interest of the affected teams.
- Players are responsible for advising the selectors, of any injury or other condition, that may affect their playing ability for any side they are being considered for
- Every attempt will be made by the Selection Committee to accommodate the needs of players, where they are made known to the selectors ahead of time (e.g.: only want to play lead or need to sit down during ends; recovering from illness or injury, etc)
- It is also the players responsibility to know the outcome of the selection process each week. The sides will be posted at the Club, on the magnetic boards after Selection Committee meets and as soon as practicable on the Club's website. Selection will take place on Monday evenings for Saturday games and following the Midweek Tuesday games on a Thursday.
- A Selection Committee member, will contact a player whose position in the team is altered down by one division, either face to face or by phone at the earliest practical time, and give an explanation for the change?
- Every player who makes themselves available, will be treated equally and without bias or discrimination; and selected on merit, ability, and compatibility and selected in the highest division they are capable of playing
- Players in lower divisions may be asked to rotate availability in order to give all members the opportunity of playing games during the season
- All players are encouraged to attend practice night's and seek assistance of the Club Coaches to improve their performance
- Players should communicate with their team if they are travelling direct to away matches

### f. Selection- Player Appeals:

All players have the right to natural justice – that is, they must be made aware of the selection process, have a sense of certainty on how it is applied and have an avenue of appeal, if on balance the process is thought to have failed them.

A Player has the **right of appeal**, if the selection process:

- Attempts to hide matters from a player
  - Changes the rules for selection mid-season
  - If inappropriate criteria is applied
  - Acts outside the printed selection criteria
  - Or acts outside the reasonable expectation of the player
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- Any player is welcome to discuss his/her selection and/or advise a change of circumstances, etc. by either arranging a meeting with their Division's nominated selection committee liaison person, or by attending a selection committee meeting by seeking a mutually acceptable time in advance.
  - If appealing a selection decision, the player should be able to prove that their selection is affected by one or more of the "rights of appeal" and is based on information that is factual.
  - If the appeal is not resolved by a meeting (as set out above), the Selection Committee will refer the matter to the Pennant Coordinator/Bowls Committee as soon as practicable. The Pennant Coordinator will act as a mediator between the parties and act to deliver a timely resolution.
  - Only in special circumstances, will the matter be referred to the Board of Management and any referral will be at the discretion of the Pennant Coordinator/ Bowls Committee.



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**PLEASE NOTE:** It is considered inappropriate to criticise a member/s of the Selection Committee outside a Selection Committee meeting or in any one on one encounter; as each player has the right of a formal grievance process and can meet with the Selection Committee as indicated. Raising disputes with individual selectors immediately before a match or at the bar or pennant board is not appropriate behaviour.

### g. Pennant Bowls General Information

- To protect the green, always wear the correct footwear when practising/playing, and do not drop your bowls on the green.
- If at Torquay, ensure your opponent knows where the toilets, bar, water dispensers and smoking areas are and, if necessary, the location of sunscreen lotion.

#### 1. Before the Game:

##### Arriving for a Game and Trial Ends

- The designated start time for a Saturday pennant game is 1pm.
- Midweek is 10.30am prior to the December break and 10.00am from January.
- You should aim to be at the venue (home or away) 45 minutes before the start of the game and no later than 30 minutes.

#### 2. Travel to away games

- The departure time for away games is displayed on the selection board.
- When travelling to away games it is assumed that you will travel as a team.
- If you have made other plans it is important that you inform the other players in your team.
- It is the skip's responsibility to ensure that somebody in his team is designated to drive and inform the team.

#### 3. Umpire

- One or two certified umpires are allocated by the home club to officiate on a pennant day. In most circumstances the umpire is playing at the venue. If you require a ruling, the resolution of a close measure or other matter resolved, you may call an umpire. Be patient, they may be about to bowl themselves. Remember that once an umpire has made a decision on a measurement it cannot be questioned.

#### 4. Footwear & Uniform

- Refer to Bowls Victoria Attire policy and the TBC Uniform and Footwear Procedure.

#### 5. Mobile phones:

- A new ruling in the GBR rules book **prohibits the use of mobile phones** and electronic devices on the green or surrounds during play and there is a considerable penalty if you do.
- Turn them off (or at least on silent) and put them in your bag!

#### 6. Alcohol on greens:

- In relation to GBR Pennant policy alcohol is not permitted on the green under any circumstances whilst a game is in progress on the green.

#### 7. Smoking:

- In relation to GBR Pennant Policy Smoking on the green is not permitted under any circumstances by participating players at any time whilst a game is in progress.



## **Bowls Committee Procedure**

- Torquay's Smoking policy indicates all areas in the Torquay Bowls Club Precinct are SMOKE-FREE areas except for the main car park.

### **PROCEDURE GOVERNANCE**

The Bowls Committee will:

- Review this procedure, prior to the commencement of the season and amend or enhance the procedure where necessary.
- Provide a copy in the Procedure Manual or a soft copy on the Clubs website
- Communicate procedure content to members
- Adhere to all Pennant Guideline of Bowls Victoria and the Geelong Bowls Region.