



# PROTOCOL

# CONDITIONS OF PLAY (PENNANT) 2024-25



# BOWLS TASMANIA SOUTH



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*Matters not specifically set out in these Conditions are to be dealt with in accordance with the **Laws of the Sport of Bowls**, including domestic regulations for Australia (“the WB Laws”), and **Bowls Australia policies**.*

*In the event of any conflict between these Conditions and the WB Laws, the WB Laws prevail.*

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## **1. GAME STRUCTURE**

### **1.1 Conduct of Competitions**

- (a) The BTS Match Committee is the controlling body for all BTS pennant competitions.
- (b) The BTS Match Committee has authority to take any action deemed necessary for the satisfactory conduct of such competitions in compliance with the WB Laws.

### **1.2 State and National Competitions**

- (a) Bowls Tasmania does not permit regions to play pennant on dates that clash with national and state events.
- (b) Notwithstanding this, Bowls Tasmania has allowed BTS to schedule pennant games in the 2024-25 season whilst The Nationals, the BPL or the BPL Cup are underway, and has set the following rules.
- (c) If a side is adversely affected because more than two players and/or officials are at The Nationals, the BPL or the BPL Cup, the affected club must determine an alternate date for the game with their opposition, and request the rostered game be rescheduled to that agreed date.
- (d) The BTS Match Committee must approve a request made under Condition 1.2(c). If an alternate date cannot be agreed upon between the two clubs, the BTS Match Committee will determine when the game will be played.
- (e) Any player required to play in an event under the control of Bowls Tasmania or BTS will not be penalised for their non-appearance in an event under the control of a club, which is scheduled for play at the same time.

### **1.3 Pennant Competitions**

- (a) There will be three pennant competitions:
  - (i) **Open Gender Pennant.** An open competition for all male and female players.
  - (ii) **Men's Pennant.** A single-gender competition for male players aged 12 years and older.
  - (iii) **Women's Pennant.** A single-gender competition for female players aged 12 years and older.

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- (b) The requirement to be over 12 years of age only applies to Men's and Women's pennant. This is a requirement of the Tasmanian Anti-Discrimination Act as it applies to single gender competitions.
- (c) The BTS Match Committee is not able to grant dispensation for players in Men's and Women's pennant who are under 12 years of age.

## **1.4 Entries into Pennant Competition**

- (a) Unless otherwise determined by the BTS Match Committee, clubs will advise not later than 1 September each year, the number of sides they propose to enter in each pennant competition.
- (b) The BTS Match Committee will determine the total number of sides that a club may enter in a pennant competition.
- (c) In any Division where more than one side is permitted the sides will be distinguished by the suffix 1 and 2 and so on
- (d) Subject to Condition 9.6, the BTS Match Committee will decide the relegations and promotions that will take place for the ensuing season and place new sides entering the competition in the division it considers appropriate.

## **1.5 Competition Structure**

- (a) Competitions may be played in Divisions and Divisions may be played in Sections.
- (b) **Open Gender Pennant.** Unless otherwise determined by the BTS Match Committee there will be eight Divisions in order of seniority as follows: Premier Division, Division 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.
- (c) **Men's and Women's Pennant.** Unless otherwise determined by the BTS Match Committee there will be four Divisions in order of seniority as follows: Division 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- (d) No club will have more than one side in a division except in:
  - (i) The Lowest division for Men's Pennant.
  - (ii) The Lowest division for Women's Pennant.
  - (iii) Division 6 and below for Open Gender Pennant.
- (e) The duration of all pennant matches will be 21 ends.

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## **1.6 Divisional Structure**

(a) **Open Gender Pennant.**

- (i) Premier Division and Divisions 1 to 5 will consist of ten sides each.
- (ii) In Premier Division and Divisions 1 to 5 each side in a division will be drawn to play each other twice, once on each side's green.

(b) **Men's and Women's Pennant.** These competitions will be open to all affiliated clubs and the structure of sides for each division will be:

- (i) Divisions 1 to 3 will consist of ten sides each.
- (ii) In Divisions 1 to 3 each side in a division will be drawn to play each other twice, once on each side's green.

(c) The BTS Match Committee will decide the structure and roster of the lowest Divisions in each pennant.

## **1.7 Sectional Structure**

- (a) When the number of sides entered in the lowest division is 12 or more, that division will be played in two sections consisting of a similar number of sides.
- (b) Wherever possible, a club with two sides entered in a division to be conducted in two sections one of the club's sides will be placed in each section.
- (c) The roster for divisions played in two sections will be for the same length as that for all other divisions of that pennant competition.

## **1.8 Side Structure**

(a) **Open Gender Pennant.** The competition will be open to all affiliated clubs and the structure of sides for each division will be:

- (i) Premier Division and Divisions 1 to 4 – four teams, each of four players
- (ii) Divisions 5 and 6 - three teams, each of four players
- (iii) Division 7 – two teams, each of four players.

(b) **Men's and Women's Pennant.** These competitions will be open to all affiliated clubs and the structure of sides for each division will be three teams, each of four players.



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- (c) Each side in a four-rink competition must have at least 12 of its own players in the side, three in each team and only one substitute from another club in each rink.
- (d) Each side in a three-rink competition must have at least nine of its own players in the side, three in each team and only one substitute from another club in each rink.
- (e) Each side in a two-rink competition must have at least six of its own players in the side, three in each team and only one substitute from another club in each rink.
- (f) A composite side, with players from more than one club, may group players from the same club into the same rink.

## **1.9 Starting Times**

- (a) The appointed time for commencing each roster match is
  - (i) Open Gender Pennant: 1.00pm.
  - (ii) Men's Pennant: 12 noon.
  - (iii) Women's Pennant: 11.00am.
- (b) **Bruny Island.** Because of travelling constraints, Open Gender matches involving Bruny Island sides, whether home or away, will commence at 11.00am with trial ends at 10.45am.
- (c) **Representative games in the North-West.** Matches that involve players and/or officials of BTS Representative Sides competing in official games played in the North-West on the day following the scheduled Pennant round should commence no later than 11.00am.
- (d) Clubs may agree to hold their match on a different day and/or at a different time. If a different day is chosen, an email from both clubs to the BTS Secretary must confirm this agreement on the day the agreement is made.

## **1.10 Breaks**

- (a) **Open Gender and Men's Pennant:** There will be a compulsory break of at least 20 minutes during rostered games and finals, after 11 ends, unless both Side Captains agree otherwise.

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- (b) **Women's Pennant:** There will be a compulsory lunch break of at least 30 minutes at 12.30pm during rostered games and finals, unless both Side Captains agree otherwise.

## **1.11 Playing on Adjacent Rinks**

- (a) If, prior to the day of a scheduled pennant round, a club has assigned more than one of its divisional sides to play on the same green, rinks must be allocated to ensure that the teams of each of its sides play on adjacent rinks.
- (b) If, on the day of a scheduled pennant round, a match is transferred from one green to another on which a pennant match has already been assigned, the rinks must be allocated to ensure that the teams of each side play on adjacent rinks.
- (c) If the scheduled commencement of play is less than 30 minutes from the decision to transfer, rinks allocated to the transferring match need not be adjacent rinks.

## **1.12 Forfeits and Late Inclusions**

- (a) Any forfeits by a club will be in the club's lowest division in that competition. Where a club forfeits five matches in a pennant season, that club's lowest side will be automatically withdrawn from the pennant competition.
- (b) Where the withdrawal of the pennant side occurs, the results of any matches played will stand and subsequent BYEs will be handled under Condition 7.2.
- (c) If a side joins a division after the commencement of the season, it will not receive pennant points or shots for any games not played.

## **2. GREENS AND BOWLS**

### **2.1 Choice of Surfaces**

- (a) There will be no discrimination in favour of either synthetic or natural surfaces in the allocation of BTS Pennant competitions.

### **2.2 Damage to Greens**

- (a) The *BTS Greens Protection Policy*, as amended from time to time, will apply to all BTS pennant games. The Policy outlines actions that can be taken by clubs or by the BTS Match Committee against players whose delivery is deemed to be causing undue damage to greens.

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## **2.3 Condition of Greens**

- (a) Grass greens are not to be watered before play on the day of play.
- (b) Synthetic greens may be watered on the day of play where the manufacturer recommends it to provide optimal performance.
- (c) Watering of synthetic greens may only occur, if required by the greenkeeper, at the following times:
  - (i) Two (2) hours prior to the official start time
  - (ii) 15 minutes prior to the official start time (before roll-up)
  - (iii) During the mid-game break (if taken).
- (d) It is expected that, under normal weather conditions, greens in Southern Tasmania should commence play at a speed between 12 and 16 seconds.
- (e) Clubs whose greens are consistently reported as being outside these guidelines will be contacted by the BTS Match Committee to discuss possible corrective action.

## **2.4 Reporting Non-compliant Greens**

- (a) If a green is considered unfit for pennant play, a written complaint to the BTS Secretary must be made within 24 hours of a game played on that green.
- (b) If, after inspection by appointed BTS representatives, a green is deemed unfit for the pennant play, the BTS Match Committee may direct the Club to play their remaining pennant matches on another Club's green.
- (c) If arrangements are not made as directed above the BTS Match Committee may:
  - (i) Order the forfeiture by such Club of all pennant matches scheduled to be played on the reported green, and/or
  - (ii) Withdraw approval for such Club to conduct any Open Tournaments for the remainder of that season.
- (d) The Club concerned will, after notice from the BTS Secretary, take such steps considered necessary by the BTS Match Committee to bring the green to a reasonable standard.

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- (e) If, following such action, the BTS representatives subsequently certifies that the green has become fit for competition play, the BTS Match Committee can authorise return to normal pennant play on the Club's green and reinstate approval for any Open Tournaments previously scheduled for that part of the season remaining.
- (f) If a green is deemed unfit for pennant play by the BTS representatives at the time of closing of pennant entries in the following season, the BTS Match Committee may refuse to accept entries for the pennant competition from that Club.

## **2.5 Play on Green Prohibited**

- (a) Play on greens is prohibited whilst BTS Pennant is in progress on that green except if permission is obtained from all participating Side Captains.
- (b) Such permission can only be granted if spare rinks are available and anyone playing on spare rinks must be in full uniform.

## **2.6 Timing of Greens**

- (a) If requested by the visiting side captain, a green will be timed by opposing side captains approximately 20 minutes before the commencement of play.
- (b) If the green is timed, the speed of the green will be announced prior to the trial ends.
- (c) If a green is timed at less than 12 seconds or greater than 16 seconds and is reported to the BTS Secretary within 48 hours of the completion of the game, an explanation will be provided by the home club.
- (d) If that explanation is not satisfactory to the BTS Match Committee, the home club will forfeit six points from each of its sides playing on that green on that day.

## **2.7 Eligibility of Bowls Used**

- (a) All bowls used in the competition will meet eligibility criteria required by current WB Laws, except that the stamp of a current or future year will not be enforced.

## **2.8 Bowls Stickers**

- (a) Players in a side may use bowls stickers that are different in size.
- (b) The stickers must, however, be one layer only, the same design and colour and, where used, must be adhered to both sides of the bowl.

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- (c) On the bias side (the small ring):
  - (i) the stickers may be a small ring and/or the dot. The sticker may cover the symbol but must not cover the WB stamp or serial number.
  - (ii) It is acceptable for one or more members of a team to use a small ring and another to use the dot (these are stickers of different size).
  - (iii) The stickers used on the bias side of the bowls may be partially trimmed to ensure that the WB stamp and serial number remain visible.
- (d) On the non-bias side (the large ring):
  - (i) It is acceptable for players to have stickers cut into sections, to accommodate the large image found on some models of bowls. Further, it is acceptable for only some members of the team/side to have the rings cut into sections.
  - (ii) It is not contrary to the WB Laws for the stickers used on the non-bias side to partly cover the engraved image on the non-bias side.
- (e) Where bowls stickers are affixed to bowls, the stickers must be identical for all bowls in use by the team. In the case of a composite pennant side, each player may use bowls displaying the stickers of their own Club.
- (f) The stickers must be consistently applied to each set of bowls. For example, if the dot is used on the bias side, it must be used on each of a player's bowls used in the match.

## **3. COMPETITORS**

### **3.1 Eligibility**

- (a) Every member of an affiliated club with a Competition Bowler membership type is eligible to play in BTS Pennant competitions.
- (b) Social/barefoot bowlers may be eligible for selection in pennant sides, subject to certain restrictions per Condition 3.7 but will not be eligible to play in BTS Championship events.
- (c) No player will play in more than one match of the same round per pennant competition. In exceptional circumstances the BTS Match Committee may, on written application, waive this condition. Any infringement of this condition will result in the forfeiture of the match.

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## **3.2 Playing for Two Clubs**

- (a) A player from a Club which does not have sides entered in a particular pennant is permitted to play in that pennant with another Club providing the player has a Competition Bowler membership type and that only one other Club is involved.
- (b) Such players are not Substitutes and may play in any position.
- (c) The matter of membership of the second Club is to be between the player and the new Club.

## **3.3 Two Sides in a Division**

- (a) Where a club has more than one side in a division, players are not interchangeable, even as substitutes, in the last three pennant games of the season.
- (b) When a club has more than one side in a division, and one side makes finals, but the other side does not, players can be selected from the side not contesting finals but only to fill a vacancy caused by illness.
- (c) The BTS Secretary must be notified of the name of any substitute players.

## **3.4 Dual Membership and Transfers**

- (a) A member will not play pennant for more than one club in any one season unless condition 3.2 or condition 3.11 applies.
- (b) If a player holds dual membership, they may only play in the Club Championships of their primary club.
- (c) Where a member transfers membership to another club, the transfer must be fully completed prior to the member being eligible to play pennant for the new club.
- (d) Where a member transfers to another club, they will be ineligible to play in Club Championship event at the new club that they have already played in at the previous club.

## **3.5 Opposite Gender players**

- (a) The opposite gender players can only be used in single-gender pennant competition when no eligible same gender player is available.
- (b) Opposite gender players may only be used in a club's lowest pennant side and only one opposite gender player is allowed per team (rink).
- (c) The opposite gender player may only play in the "second" position.

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- (d) If a team is required to play one short, the opposite gender player must play as a lead and the vacant position must be the “second” position.
- (e) To be eligible for selection opposite gender players must be regular players (see Condition 9.1) participating in Division 3 or below.
- (f) Clubs that do not have eligible players must submit a list of proposed players to the BTS Match Committee seeking dispensation. Endorsement must be received before nominated players can be selected.
- (g) An opposite gender player will become ineligible for further selection when that player has played five or more games in Division 2 or higher except where dispensation has been granted.

### **3.6 Selection Guidelines – Pennant Players**

- (a) Clubs will select their sides from a list of available players who are members of the club at the time of selection.
- (b) When a club has fewer players available for selection than positions to be filled to ensure full sides in all divisions of a pennant competition only the lowest side will be permitted to have fewer players than is required for a full side.
- (c) Clubs will ensure that all players in all Divisions are selected in positions based on their ability and merit.
- (d) If a club cannot select a player on ability or merit, it must be prepared to justify their selection decision to the BTS Match Committee.
- (e) Abuse of selection guidelines may result in penalties per Condition 7.4.

### **3.7 Selection Guidelines – Social Members**

- (a) A barefoot/social member, who has **not** played pennant, may play up to 5 games of pennant (but not finals) without cost. This includes games played in the 2023-24 season.
- (b) A barefoot/social member, who played pennant in the 2023-24 season under the 5-game rule, may play up to 5 games (but not finals) this season upon payment of a proportional affiliation fee of \$35 (including GST) **before** their first game.
- (c) An experienced bowler, who played pennant in the past but is not currently playing pennant, and **did not** play under the 5-game rule in the 2023-24 season, may play up to 5 games (but not finals) this season upon payment of a proportional affiliation fee of \$35 (including GST) **before** their first game.

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- (d) An experienced bowler, who played pennant under the 5-game rule in the 2023-24 season, must be entered into BowlsLink as a full member of the club. They will be eligible to play as many games as the club requires (including finals) and will be counted in the 28 February census as a full member.
- (e) Clubs must advise the BTS Secretary **before** the person plays each game they are selected to play. Games will be tracked on the BTS website as in season 2023-24.
- (f) The proportional fee of \$35 (conditions (b) and (c) above) must be deposited into the BTS Bank Account **before** the person's first game. When advising the BTS Secretary of the player's selection per condition (e), the deposit reference **must** also be provided.
- (g) If the provisions above are not met, the club risks playing an ineligible player which will result in forfeiture of the game.

### **3.8 Selection Guidelines – Statewide Challenge Players**

- (a) If players are chosen in a Statewide Challenge side and make themselves' unavailable to play in that side, they will be ineligible to play in any pennant game held while the Southern side is travelling or playing, except in exceptional circumstances accepted by the BTS Match Committee.
- (b) The penalty for infringement will be the forfeiture of the game by the side for which the player plays.

### **3.9 Sharing a Position**

- (a) If a player believes they may be unable to complete a Pennant game, an eligible alternative player from the same Club may be permitted to "share" the game with that player.
- (b) Sharing a position can mean anything from one player at each end bowling an end alternatively to a player finishing a game for another player or anything in between.
- (c) Sharing a position is permitted in any Division.
- (d) Approval for sharing of a position will only be given if the aim is to keep older and/or less healthy players playing bowls longer.
- (e) The name of the eligible alternative player is to be noted on the score card but is not to be entered into the BowlsLink Results Portal.

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- (f) The player whose name is on the score card will be the only player who will be deemed to have played the game in determining eligibility to play in finals.
- (g) No sharing of a position will be permitted unless it is approved in writing by the BTS Secretary prior to the match.

### **3.10 Absentee Players**

- (a) If a game commences with only three players in a team or if a game commences with four players in a team and subsequently one of the players becomes ill or cannot continue for other reasons and there are no substitutes available, the game should continue with three players in that team.
  - (i) The team with an absent player must play with the “second” position missing.
  - (ii) The order of play will be maintained by the second of the complete team playing consecutive bowls.
  - (iii) Each player must play two bowls only.
  - (iv) The team with an absent player will have no reduction made in its score.
- (b) Conditions 6.1 and 6.2 provide guidance if players becomes ill.

### **3.11 Replacement Players and Substitutes**

- (a) The current WB Laws will be followed in relation to replacement players and substitutes, and the period of grace before appointed the start time.
- (b) Where a club has a temporary shortage of its own members to fill all its pennant sides, it may play eligible substitute players from other clubs.
- (c) The maximum number of substitute players from other clubs will be one per rink and they will be included only in the lowest side.
- (d) If an unforeseen emergency vacancy occurs in any division, a substitute player may be used from the opposition club.
- (e) The Results Portal must be updated to indicate a substitute player was used and the BTS Secretary must be notified of the name of the substitute player.
- (f) Once a player has played in a final for their club, they are ineligible to be a substitute in a final for another club in the same competition and division.





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## **4. BEFORE THE GAME**

### **4.1 Allowed to Play**

- (a) If a club takes disciplinary action against a player, that club has the right to deny the player in bad standing entry to the club and/or green.
- (b) If the banned player transfers to another club, and that club is playing the club that banned the player, and that club is planning to select the banned player in their side, they must seek approval for the banned player to play at the club they were banned from.
- (c) The BTS Secretary must be included in any email correspondence between the two clubs.
- (d) The club that banned the player may:
  - (i) allow the banned player to bowl with or without conditions, or
  - (ii) reject the request from the banned player's club.
- (e) If condition 4.d (i) applies, and the banned player breaches the conditions of entry, the host club may enforce the ban on the player. The banned player must leave the grounds, and the banned player's side must play one short.
- (f) If condition 4.d (ii) applies, the club must not select the banned player in the side for the game to be played at the club that banned the player.
- (g) If the club arrives to play with the banned player, after receiving a rejection per condition 4.d (ii), the side with the banned player will forfeit the match.

### **4.2 Minimum numbers**

- (a) If a pennant side arrives to play with the minimum number of players required:
  - (i) In a four-team competition, it must be a minimum of 12 players with four teams of three players.
  - (ii) In a three-team competition, it must be a minimum of nine players with three teams of three players.
  - (iii) In a two-team competition, it must be a minimum of six players with two teams of three players.
- (b) Where possible, substitutes should be obtained.

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- (c) This situation only applies to a Club's lowest competing side, otherwise automatic forfeiture of the whole side is in question. Penalties as set out in Condition 9.7 may apply for non-conformance.

## **4.3 Draw for Rinks**

- (a) Opposing Side Captains will draw for rinks and teams will play as drawn, and in the positions listed on the scorecard.
- (b) The draw should take place approximately 30 minutes prior to the agreed time for commencement of play.
- (c) The preferred method for randomly drawing rinks/teams is through BowlsLink unless both side captains agree to a manual draw.

## **4.4 Change of Playing Surface**

- (a) The host club will allocate the rinks of play for each division playing at the club at least two (2) hours before the agreed starting time to afford practice for the visiting side per Condition 4.5.
- (b) Changes to the playing surface/rinks will then only be permitted by mutual agreement between the Side Captains.
- (c) If a change of surface/rinks is requested by the host club, the *Change of Playing Surface form* at the back of these conditions must be completed to confirm the decision of the Side Captains.
- (d) If the *Change of Playing Surface form* is not completed, the visiting club may make representation to the BTS Match Committee for a forfeit by the host club.

## **4.5 Practice**

- (a) Subject to the permission of the host club, any intending player may practice on any available rink prior to the scheduled commencement time of the match. Permission should be granted except under exceptional circumstances.
- (b) Practice is to occur on the defined rinks. There is no longer a requirement to practice on the pegs.
- (c) Once rinks are drawn as per Condition 4.3 players cannot practice on the rink they are drawn to play on but practice can continue on any other available rink.
- (d) Practice is permitted up until the beginning of trial ends.

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## **4.6 Trial Ends**

- (a) One trial end each way, to a bare jack, using two bowls which are to be used in the match, will be permitted before the game.
- (b) Trial ends will start 15 minutes before the scheduled start time unless Side Captains agree on an earlier time.
- (c) If the trial ends are still in progress at the scheduled starting time, they will cease immediately.

## **4.7 Commencement**

- (a) At the scheduled time for commencement of play, the commencement of play is in the hands of the Side Captains of the respective sides, unless the Greens Superintendent, a deputy or a nominated representative, has ruled to the contrary.
- (b) If the Side Captains cannot agree the Umpire's decision will prevail.
- (c) A side not available to play within 30 minutes of the scheduled commencement time will forfeit the match, not receive any pennant points and receive a penalty of minus 15 shots. The opposing side will receive the maximum number of pennant points applicable in the game and be credited with 15 shots.

## **5. DURING THE GAME**

### **5.1 Electronic Devices**

- (a) Electronic devices including mobile phones, are not permitted to be used on the greens or their immediate surrounds except:
  - (i) When being used to enter live scores into the BowlsLink portal.
  - (ii) With permission of the umpire.
  - (iii) Where use of such device is consistent with *BA Electronic Devices* policy.

### **5.2 Hearing Disabilities**

- (a) Players with a hearing disability may use electronic devices to communicate with each other whilst on the rink of play but only when in possession of the mat.

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- (b) Any such use must be approved by the BTS Match Committee before the commencement of the game. The approval will cover every competition the player enters.

## **5.3 Smoking and Vaping**

- (a) Smoking within 20 metres of greens and seating areas beside greens is not permitted during BTS pennant competitions.
- (b) The smoke-free area will apply during the games and for the period 30 minutes before and after the competitions.
- (c) Clubs are responsible for providing designated smoking areas. Clubs will make individual rulings depending on their circumstances. Where designated smoking areas have been provided at a Club, these areas must be used.
- (d) Vaping using E-cigarettes is a form of smoking and is restricted under this condition. Vaping is only permitted in designated smoking areas.

## **5.4 Player Conduct**

- (a) Breaches of the *Player Code of Conduct* include abusive or coarse language, ignoring directions from umpires, dissension or conduct unbecoming, and actions which would bring the game of bowls into disrepute.
- (b) Breaches should be reported on the *Player Infringement Report* at the back of these conditions.
- (c) This condition is to be administered in accordance with the *BTS Disciplinary Policy* and the *Bowls Australia Instantaneous Penalties Policy*.

## **5.5 Uniforms**

- (a) The *BA National Merchandise Program and Logo Policy* and *BTS Uniform Policy* as amended from time to time will apply to all persons playing in BTS Pennant competitions. This includes headwear and footwear.
- (b) All persons playing in pennant competitions must wear their approved club uniform.
- (c) Players from a club making up a composite pennant side may wear approved attire as if they were a side in their own right.

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- (d) A club may seek temporary relief from this condition if any of its players are unable to comply due to circumstances beyond their control. Any such relief must be approved by the BTS Match Committee.
- (e) Breaches of the BA and/or BTS uniform policies should be reported on the Uniform Infringement Report at the back of these conditions.

## **5.6 Restricting Movement of Players**

- (a) Restricting the movement of players during play will be enforced in accordance with Appendix A4 of the WB Laws.
- (b) Prior to the start of each end, the leads, seconds and thirds will take their position at the mat end of the green. (The third may elect to stand with the skip at the head.)
- (c) After delivering their first bowl, players will only be allowed to follow their bowls up the green or walk up to the head under the following circumstances:
  - (i) **The leads:** after the second player has delivered their second bowl.
  - (ii) **The seconds:** after delivery of their second bowl.
  - (iii) **The thirds:** after delivery of their second bowl.
  - (iv) **The skips:** after delivery of each of their bowls.
- (d) In exceptional and limited circumstances, a skip can ask that a player walks up to the head earlier than described above. If a player does not meet these terms, WB law 13 will apply.

## **5.7 Delay of play**

- (a) If the Umpire, either by their own observation or on appeal from one of the skips, decides that a player is deliberately delaying the delivery of their bowl:
  - (i) On the first occasion the Umpire will warn the player and direct that player to play their bowl/s without further delay.
  - (ii) If the player commits the same offence after being warned, the player's bowl will be declared dead, and the team will forfeit any bowls remaining to be delivered in that end.
  - (iii) If condition 5.7 (b) is invoked, the non-offending team will deliver their remaining bowls to complete the end (LAW A.5.6).

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## 6. GAME INTERRUPTIONS

### 6.1 Extreme Heat Policy

- (a) The Side Captains, Skips and/or Umpires have a duty of care to ensure the health and safety of players and officials during extreme heat conditions. They must be aware of, and act in accordance with, the *BTS Extreme Weather and Natural Disasters Policy*.
- (b) When the temperature is reported by Weatherzone at or above 30°C play must be interrupted at 20-minute intervals (at the completion of the end in play), for a period of five (5) minutes, during which time, drinks should be made available. Any time limit imposed on the interrupted match will be waived.
- (c) When the temperature reported by Weatherzone is at or above 32°C play must be suspended until the temperature drops to 30°C. Players are required to wait up to two hours for the temperature to drop to 30°C. If after a two hour delay the temperature has not reduced to 30°C play must be abandoned.
- (d) If the temperature reported by Weatherzone is at or above 35°C play must be abandoned.
- (e) If, after consultation with players, the two Side Captains and the Umpire (that is, all three) agree that local conditions are milder than Weatherzone reports (for example, due to local cloud cover or sea breeze), then play can continue with the 5-minute drinks interruptions as outlined in condition 6.1 (b).

### 6.2 Serious Injury or Illness

- (a) If a player is seriously injured, is seriously ill or passes away whilst playing pennant or immediately prior to playing pennant, Clubs must adhere to the *BTS Serious Injury and Illness Policy* available on the BTS website.
- (b) If a player is unable to continue during a game (for example, due to heat stress), the rink must play one-short per Condition 3.10 unless an eligible player is available to fill the vacancy as a substitute.
- (c) If a player sufficiently recovers from the cause of their exit, they may re-enter the game, in their original position, at the start of next end (replacing the substitute if applicable).



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## **6.3 COVID-19 (coronavirus)**

- (a) Clubs and all players in BTS Championships competitions must always adhere to the *BTS Coronavirus Policy*.

## **6.4 Inclement Weather before Commencement**

- (a) If the weather is inclement, before play commences, the Side Captains should confer and decide whether the commencement of play should be delayed until the situation improves or the green becomes unserviceable.
- (b) Play should normally not be abandoned at this stage and such a decision should be delayed whilst there is still a reasonable prospect for the weather to improve sufficiently to allow the game to be completed.
- (c) If, owing to inclement weather, play has not commenced two hours after the agreed starting time for the commencement of play, the game should be abandoned.
- (d) In the event of a disagreement between the Side Captains, the Umpire will decide. The Umpire's decision should reflect the opinion of most players and duty of care.

## **6.5 Inclement Weather after Commencement**

- (a) In the event of adverse weather conditions (including extreme heat as defined in Condition 6.1) after play has commenced, the side captains should confer to decide whether the game should be postponed and, if so, for how long.
- (b) Postponement should take precedence over abandonment whilst the time remaining to play is sufficient to allow for the match to be completed. In the event of a disagreement between the side captains as to stopping or resuming play, the Umpire will decide.
- (c) If, after the commencement of play, a cumulative total of two hours (both prior to commencement of play and after commencement of play) has been lost due to inclement weather the game should be abandoned.

## **6.6 Inclement Weather and Indoor Centres**

- (a) If inclement weather affects ALL outside games in a Division or a Section in that they cannot be completed per condition 7.1, indoor games in the same Division or Section will not count and all matches will be deemed incomplete, and the points shared.

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- (b) If one or more games in a Division or a Section are completed outdoors in a weather-affected round per condition 7.1, indoor games in the same Division or Section will count.

## **6.7 Interruption by Natural or Civil Disaster**

- (a) In the event of a game being affected or interrupted by a natural or civil disaster, the game will be abandoned, and points will be shared except if a game is abandoned after sufficient ends have been played to constitute a match.
- (b) If sufficient ends have been played (see Condition 7.1), the game will be deemed to be complete with the match result determined by the scores as at the abandonment.

## **6.8 Cancellation of a Match**

- (a) Except in exceptional circumstances, a decision against the commencement of play must not be made prior to two hours before the scheduled start of play.
- (b) When a decision against the commencement of play is reached before the arrival of the visiting side or sides, such decision will be promptly telephoned to the visiting club or clubs concerned.

## **6.9 Re-commencement**

- (a) Should play be postponed, it should be recommenced at the earliest possible time, having regard to playing conditions.
- (b) If the Greens Superintendent, a Deputy, or a nominated representative, considers that continuation or recommencement of play will have an adverse effect on the green, they may close the green.

## **6.10 Incomplete, Abandoned and Forfeited Games**

- (a) Incomplete or abandoned games (which have commenced but which are not able to reach the required minimum number of ends to constitute a game) will be counted as a game played when counting player eligibility.
- (b) Forfeited games (when one side forfeits a game to its opponent) will be counted as a game played by the non-forfeiting side only when counting player eligibility provided that the side receiving the forfeit has been entered into the Results Portal.

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## **7. FINALISING THE GAME**

### **7.1 Minimum Ends**

- (a) Other than in the finals, if a match is abandoned, an aggregate total of ends (as below) is required to be completed before a match is deemed complete:

<b>Divisions with...</b>	<b>Total ends</b>
Four team sides	60
Three team sides	45
Two team sides	30

- (b) When less than the required aggregate number of ends have been completed a match will count as a draw.

### **7.2 Match Scoring**

- (a) Unless the BTS Match Committee determines otherwise, the results of each match will be scored as follows:

	<b>WIN</b>	<b>DRAW</b>	<b>LOSS</b>
<b>Match Points</b>	6	3	0
<b>Team Points</b>	2	1	0

- (b) In each section or Division, as applicable, points will be allotted for all completed matches. Points for incomplete matches will be shared.
- (c) No points will be allotted for “byes” in rounds where all sides participate equally. In rounds where there is an inequality, those sides receiving BYEs will be allotted points and shots at the end of each round equal to the average number of points and shots received from the round effected.

### **7.3 Recording the Match Result**

- (a) Club selectors will ensure sides are entered into the BowlsLink Results Portal as soon as possible after selection and no later than two hours before play.
- (b) The home club must ensure each Side Captain has “Pennant Administrator” BowlsLink access and the skills necessary to adjust teams and enter results.
- (c) The home Side Captain is to ensure the teams and team members entered in the Portal agree with the scorecard.



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- (d) The home Side Captain must enter results into the Portal as soon as possible after the conclusion of play.
- (e) The opposing Side Captain must be present to assist and verify that entries into the Portal are correct.
- (f) Once finalised, the information recorded in the results portal will be deemed to be true and correct.
- (g) Any requests for changes to the finalised results must be sent to the BTS Statistician ([paul.hoddy@bigpond.com](mailto:paul.hoddy@bigpond.com)) with reason(s) why the results should be altered. If insufficient reason is provided, the results will stand as entered.
- (h) Failure to enter the results into the BowlsLink Results Portal within the stated time will, unless an explanation is given to and accepted as satisfactory by the BTS Match Committee, incur the same penalty for the home club as set out in Condition 9.7.

## **7.4 Non-eligible Players**

- (a) If a side plays a non-eligible player in a game, that game will be regarded as a forfeit, and pennant points and shot allocations provided for in Condition 7.2 will apply.
- (b) If a Club reports (or if the BTS Match Committee becomes aware of) an ineligible player within 48 hours of the conclusion of a game that a side has played a non-eligible player in a game, the side playing the non-eligible player will not receive any pennant points and will receive a penalty of minus 15 shots.
- (c) If a Club reports (or if BTS Match Committee becomes aware of) an ineligible player more than 48 hours after the conclusion of a game the opposing team will only receive the pennant points and shots earned in that game.
- (d) If a club plays an ineligible player in the final four rounds of the roster season, the side will:
  - (i) forfeit all points for the round, and/or
  - (ii) be disqualified from the finals series, and/or
  - (iii) risk further penalties being imposed by the BTS Match Committee.

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## **8. PENNANT FINALS**

### **8.1 Selection Guidelines - Finals**

- (a) Where a club has consecutive sides playing in corresponding finals they are permitted to select their sides in order of strength.
- (b) For this Condition first and second semi-finals are to be classed as corresponding, preliminary finals are to be classed as corresponding, and grand finals are to be classed as corresponding finals.
- (c) For this condition, “consecutive sides” means consecutive sides within a club. For example, if a club only has sides in divisions 2, 3 and 5 – then divisions 3 and 5 are consecutive in that club.

### **8.2 Eligibility for Finals**

- (a) Players will not be permitted to play in any of the last three pennant games or in finals in a division in that competition once they have played a total of three games in the last six rounds of the roster series in higher Divisions in that competition except under circumstances described in Condition 8.1.
- (b) No player will play in finals of Pennant for a Club in a competition unless that player has played at least six completed roster games for that Club in that competition during the season in any of the divisions except in exceptional circumstances approved by the BTS Match Committee. Such dispensation will only be given for a player to play in a Club’s lowest side in a competition.
- (c) Eligible substitutes who have played a minimum of at least six completed roster games for their Club in a competition may play finals for another Club in that competition, except if they have played in a final for their Club in the same competition and division per 3.11 (f). The maximum number of substitute players in finals will be one per rink and they will be included only in the lowest side.

### **8.3 Eligibility for Finals – Opposite Gender Players**

- (a) Opposite gender players may play in single-gender finals provided they have played at least six completed games in the single-gender Pennant during the season.

### **8.4 Pennant Finals Structure**

- (a) A final series will be played involving the first four sides in each Division.

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- (b) Finals play will be arranged as follows:
  - (i) The sides finishing third and fourth in the roster will play in the elimination semi-final. When sections apply to a Division, the sides finishing second on the ladder in each section will play in the elimination semi-final.
  - (ii) The sides finishing first and second will play in the qualifying semi-final. When sections apply to a Division, the sides finishing first on the ladder in each section will play in the qualifying semi-final
  - (iii) The winner of (i) will play the loser of (ii) in the preliminary final.
  - (iv) The winner of (ii) will play the winner of (iii) in the Grand Final.
- (c) The BTS Match Committee will make all arrangements necessary for the conduct of the final series.
- (d) The BTS Match Committee will decide the commencement time for all Pennant Final matches with proposed starting times of 9.00am, 1.00pm and 6.00pm.
- (e) When sections apply to a Division, the winner of the Grand Final will be awarded the Division Pennant, and the winner of the qualifying semi-final will be eligible for promotion in accordance with Condition 9.6.

## **8.5 Pennant Finals and Inclement Weather**

- (a) If a final cannot be played due to inclement weather, and cannot be rescheduled:
  - (i) An elimination semi-final - the side that finished third on the ladder will progress to the preliminary final. When sections apply to a Division, the side that finished with the most pennant points will progress to the preliminary final.
  - (ii) A qualifying semi-final - the side that finished first on the ladder will progress to the grand final and the side that finished second on the ladder will progress to the preliminary final. When sections apply to a Division, the side that finished with the most pennant points will progress to the preliminary final.
  - (iii) A preliminary final - the side that finished higher on the ladder will progress to the grand final.
  - (iv) A grand final - the BTS Match Committee will reschedule the match.

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## **8.6 Pennant Finals Venues**

- (a) In each Division at the end of the pennant roster the Club heading the ladder will have the option of choosing the venue for the qualifying semi-final match, as will the Club in third place on the ladder regarding the venue for the elimination semi-final match, subject to advice from the BTS Match Committee as to the suitability for play of the venues nominated.
- (b) The loser of the qualifying semi-final match, except if it chose the venue for the qualifying semi-final match, will have the option of choosing the venue for the preliminary final match subject to advice from the BTS Match Committee as to the suitability of the venue nominated.
- (c) Whenever advice from the BTS Match Committee deems a nominated venue to be unsuitable for play, or when the loser of the qualifying semi-final match chose the venue for the qualifying semi-final match, the BTS Match Committee will nominate a neutral venue at which the match will be played.

## **8.7 Pennant Grand Finals**

- (a) All grand finals will be played on the best greens available (as determined by the BTS Greens Committee) at clubs nominating to host finals. No preference will be given to either synthetic or grass greens. The BTS Match Committee will allocate which final is played at which club.
- (b) Grand Finals should be combined wherever possible so that more than one final can be played at the same venue.
- (c) Where possible Clubs with sides playing in more than one Grand Final should be played at the same venue.
- (d) In the event of adverse weather, the Premier Division Grand Final will be played at an indoor centre.
- (e) The winner is determined by the highest aggregate score.
- (f) If, at the conclusion of the specified number of ends, the aggregate scores are equal, each team making up the side will play an additional end against the same opponent on the same rink to achieve a result.
- (g) The WB Law governing additional ends will apply (WB Law 28). If at the conclusion of the additional end the scores remain equal, a further end or ends will be played as above until a result is achieved.

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**8.8 Umpires for Finals Matches**

- (a) Umpires for all final matches except for grand finals will be appointed by the host club. A list of accredited umpires is available on the BTS website.
- (b) The BTS Officiating Panel will appoint umpires for all grand finals.

**9. GAME ADMINISTRATION**

**9.1 Definition of Regular Player**

- (a) “Regular” is defined as “someone who has played the majority of their games, in the current season, in a pennant Division”.
- (b) If an even number of games have been played in more than one division, the highest division will be counted as the player’s “regular” division.
- (c) If the current season is less than six weeks old, a player’s status will be determined from where they regularly played in the previous season.

**9.2 Umpires and Measurers**

- (a) The appointment of an Umpire will be made by the host club at least one hour prior to the scheduled time for commencement of play.
- (b) Should the host club not provide an accredited Umpire, an accredited Umpire from a visiting side must be appointed if available.
- (c) If no accredited Umpire is available a suitable, unqualified person may be appointed by agreement of the Side Captains.
- (d) The appointment of one or more Measurers can also be made by the host club in addition to the appointment of an Umpire.
- (e) A Measurer’s decision regarding measuring decisions will be final. Measurers do not have the authority or qualifications to determine any WB Laws decisions.
- (f) An appointed Umpire or Measurer cannot also be the Side Captain, Greens Superintendent or Greens deputy/representative.

**9.3 Coaches**

- (a) A non-playing coach may be appointed to provide advice, encouragement and support to players in a side in accordance with WB Law 44.



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- (b) The nominated coach must be introduced to the opposing Side Captain and Umpire of the day by the coach's Side Captain.
- (c) The coach cannot also be the appointed Umpire, Measurer or Side Captain.

## **9.4 Greens Superintendents**

- (a) If the Greens Superintendent or a Deputy is not available at the home club for home matches, a suitable person may be appointed by the club as a nominated representative of these matches.
- (b) The Greens Superintendent (or a deputy or nominated representative) cannot also be the appointed Umpire or Side Captain.

## **9.5 Dispensations**

- (a) The BTS Match Committee, by majority decision, has the discretion to grant dispensation in special or exceptional circumstances to Clubs or players who cannot meet all the requirements of these Conditions of Play.
- (b) Clubs/Players must submit their request for dispensation using the *Request for Dispensation form* at the back of these conditions and clearly identify the condition they are seeking dispensation from.
- (c) The BTS Secretary will publish the details of each dispensation to the BTS website.

## **9.6 Promotions and Relegations**

- (a) **Open Gender Pennant:**
  - (i) Except in Division 6 and below, the side which finishes in last position at the conclusion of the home and away season will be relegated to the next lower Division.
  - (ii) Except in Premier Division and Division 7, the side that finish in the first position in each Division at the end of the home and away season will be promoted to the next highest Division.
  - (iii) Promotion and Relegation does not apply to Division 7 as clubs may nominate sides in these divisions based on the number of players available to form a side.

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- (b) **Women's/Men's Pennant:**
- (i) Except in the lowest Division, the side which finishes in last position at the conclusion of the home and away season will be relegated to the next lower Division.
  - (ii) Except in the highest Division, the side that finish in the first position in each Division at the end of the home and away season will be promoted to the next highest Division.
- (c) A club may request that a side that qualifies for promotion not be promoted if it is of the opinion that it would not be competitive in the higher Division.
- (i) The request must be supported with reasons for waiving the promotion.
  - (ii) The BTS Match Committee must make recommendation to the BTS Board on the non-promotion request.
  - (iii) If the same side finishes on top of the ladder in their non-promotion season, they must be promoted.
- (d) If, for any reason, a promotion in the normal way is not made, the BTS Match Committee may recommend that an alternative side be promoted. The order in which sides will be considered for promotion is as follows:
- (i) The side which finished in second position in the Division in which the side which was not promoted competed.
  - (ii) The side, not being the side that could not be promoted, which was the winner of the Divisional final, unless that side has already been promoted.
  - (iii) The side, not being the side that could not be promoted, which was the runner-up in the Divisional final unless that side has already been promoted.
- (e) The BTS Match Committee will have the power to recommend promotion, non-promotion, relegation or non-relegation of any side to ensure an even and balanced competition and to prevent mismatches.

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## **9.7 Penalties**

- (a) The infringement of certain WB Laws or of Conditions of Play may involve disqualification or replay, a penalty set down in the laws of the game, or such other penalty as the BTS Match Committee may determine in respect of a player, team or side.
- (b) The Side Captains, Skips and/or players cannot agree to bend or disregard a rule. If a match is found to have been played that contravenes these Conditions of Play or the WB Laws, both sides will receive zero points for the match.
- (c) The BTS Match Committee may impose penalties for infringing Conditions of Play including (but not limited to):
  - (i) Reprimand.
  - (ii) Forfeiture of game.
  - (iii) Loss of any number of Pennant Points.
  - (iv) Fines of up to \$500 per club per incident.
  - (v) Exclusion from competition(s) for specific events, on specific dates or for a period of time.

## **9.8 Appeals Against Penalties**

- (a) An appeal against a decision to impose a penalty may be made in writing to the BTS Secretary within 14 days of written advice of the penalty being received.
- (b) The appeal will be heard by an independent Appeals Panel of three persons appointed by the BTS Secretary.
- (c) Once the appeal has been heard and the outcome has been advised to the appellant no further appeal will be permitted.

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# PLAYER INFRINGEMENT REPORT

(If insufficient space is available, add another sheet to complete the report)

The following player has been formally reported for behaviour contrary to BTS policy.

**Player's name:** .....

**Player's club:** .....

**Date of breach:** ...../...../..... **Venue:** .....

**Competition being played:** .....

**Alleged breach:**

State the specific Laws of Bowls, BTS Conditions of Play, and/or BTS/BA policies the abovenamed player is alleged to have breached:

.....  
.....  
.....

Give a brief description of the alleged breach:

.....  
.....  
.....

Provide the names (and club) of any other witnesses of the alleged breach:

.....  
.....  
.....

**Name of complainant:** ..... **Club:** .....

**Signature of complainant:** ..... **Date:** ...../...../.....

This report should be completed as soon as possible on the day of the alleged breach and must be forwarded to the BTS Secretary as soon as possible after completion of the game.



Send completed form to [bowls.tas.south@outlook.com](mailto:bowls.tas.south@outlook.com)



# UNIFORM INFRINGEMENT REPORT

The following player has been formally reported for breaching the BTS Uniform Policy:

**Player's name:** .....

**Player's Club:** .....

**Date of breach:** ...../...../..... **Venue of breach:** .....

**Competition being played:** .....

## BREACH:

For wearing inappropriate/unlicensed/non-uniform:

- Polo top     Trousers, pedal pushers or shorts     Socks     Shoes
- Jacket or rainwear     Headwear     Other .....

## DETAILS:

.....  
.....

**Was the Player warned?**     Yes     No

**Time of warning:**     Before the game     During the Game     After the game

**Player warned by:** .....

## REPORTED BY:

**Name of person:** ..... **Club:** .....

**Signature:** ..... **Date:** ...../...../.....

**The player was given a copy of this report?**     Yes     No

This report should be completed as soon as possible on the day of the alleged breach and must be forwarded to the BTS Secretary as soon as possible after completion of the game.



Send completed form to  
[bowls.tas.south@outlook.com](mailto:bowls.tas.south@outlook.com)

# REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION



**(If insufficient space is available, add another sheet to complete the report)**

**Name of Club:** .....

**Pennant:** SATURDAY / THURSDAY / WEDNESDAY                      **Division:** .....

**Ruling required by:** ...../...../.....

We request dispensation from Conditions of Play ..... (specific rule number).

This request applies to the following players (if applicable):

.....  
.....

The reason(s) our club cannot meet the requirements of this condition are:

.....  
.....  
.....

The actions we have taken to try and meet this condition before seeking dispensation are:

.....  
.....  
.....

The impact on our club if we are not granted dispensation will be:

.....  
.....  
.....

Submitted by:

**Name:** ..... **Position held:** .....

Send completed form to  
[bowls.tas.south@outlook.com](mailto:bowls.tas.south@outlook.com)





# CHANGE OF PENNANT PLAYING SURFACE

**NOTE:** A copy of this form is to be handed to the visiting Side Captain if requested.

## TO BE COMPLETED BY HOST CLUB SIDE CAPTAIN

**Date of match:** ...../...../.....

**Competition being played:** MIDWEEK / THURSDAY / SATURDAY      **Division:** .....

The ..... (bowls club) request, of the visiting team from .....(bowls club), a change of surface

**from:** GRASS / SYNTHETIC **to** GRASS / SYNTHETIC per Conditions of Play 3.25(b).

**Reason(s) for requesting a change of surface:**

.....  
.....  
.....

## TO BE COMPLETED BY VISITING CLUB SIDE CAPTAIN

**I have consulted with my players and:**

We ACCEPT the reasons for the change of surface and elect to play as requested.

We REJECT the request for the following reason(s) and elect not to play our match:

.....  
.....

**Signature:** .....      **Date:** ...../...../.....

**Name of visiting side captain:** .....

This report should be completed as soon as possible on the day of the game and must be forwarded to the BTS Secretary as soon as possible after completion of the game.



Send completed form to [bowls.tas.south@outlook.com](mailto:bowls.tas.south@outlook.com)