

AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2009



CONDITIONS OF PLAY – AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2009

CONTROLLING BODY: Bowls Australia

EVENT: AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2009

DATES: February 15 - 21, 2009

VENUES: Shepparton Park Bowls Club, Mooroopna Bowls Club

ENTRY CONDITIONS:

Open to all bowlers affiliated with a State or Territory Association, that is affiliated to Bowls Australia or affiliated to an international body that is a member of World Bowls.

Bowlers wishing to enter the event must qualify through one of the state based qualifying events. Players in the over 60s triples must enter through Bowls Australia by January 5, 2008. Late entries will not be accepted into the event but placed on waiting lists should withdrawals occur. Waiting list will be prioritised based on time entries are received.

ELIGIBILITY:

As a condition of entry to compete in a Bowls Australia event, all competitors must:

- (a) not be currently under disqualification or suspension by their state/territory association or their national authority.
- (b) satisfy the eligibility criteria of the member state/territory association;
- (c) comply with all applicable rules and regulations of Bowls Australia and the Bowls Australia anti-doping code.

FORMAT:

The competition will be conducted in knockout play. The draw size will be:

	Men's	Women's
Singles	128	64
Pairs	64	32
Triples	64	32

All events will be played in sets play as outlined in Law 15 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

- **SINGLES:** Four bowls per player, two sets of nine ends, with a time limit of two(2) hours per match (not including trial ends).
- **PAIRS:** Three bowls per player, two sets of nine ends, with a time limit of two(2) hours and thirty(30) minutes per match (not including trial ends).
- **TRIPLES:** Two bowls per player, two sets of nine ends, with a time limit of two(2) hours and thirty (30) minutes per match (not including trial ends).

Time limits will apply to all games for all disciplines, with the exception of the finals. No time limit will apply for any of the finals.

A signal will be given five minutes before the time fixed for starting each session. Any player/team arriving 15 minutes after the starting time shall lose the right to play trial ends. Any player/team arriving at the green more than 30 minutes after the official starting time shall forfeit the game and the points for that game/or not progress through to the next round.

Pace of green shall be determined before play on each day by the green keeper and an umpire who shall then post that information in a prominent place at the venue.

TIE-BREAKER:

1. If a game is tied after the two sets have been completed (each player having won one set or both sets having been drawn), a best-of-three-ends tie-breaker should be played to decide the winner.
2. The tie-breaker will be decided by the highest number of shots won in the three ends.
3. There should be no further play in the tie-breaker if, at any point, it becomes impossible for one player or team to draw or win the tie-breaker, given the number of ends left.
4. If the third end of a tie-breaker has been completed and the scores are still level, the players should play a fourth tie-breaker end to decide the winner.
5. If the fourth end of a tie-breaker is a tied end, the players will play further tie-breaker ends until a winner is found.

PROCEDURE FOR APPLYING TIME LIMITS:

- Start of Play – Play will commence with the Tournament Director signalling the start time by a bell, horn, etc.
- End of Play – At the completion of the allocated time, the Tournament Director will signal the end time of play by a bell, horn, etc. At this time players will complete the current end they are playing. (The start of an end is determined by the delivery of the jack by the first player in that end).
- Should the result of the game not be determined by the Laws of the Sport the following principles will applied:
 - Knockout Play: Should a set/tie breaker not be completed as per the Laws of the Sport, then the score stands as at the completion of the end in play and the player with the highest number of shots for that set/tie breaker will win the set/tie breaker. If the final scores are tied, then one additional end is to be played to determine a winner.

TRIAL ENDS:

Two trial ends only will be allowed for all games in accordance with Law 18.1. In trial ends players can use any combination of bowls taken from different sets so long as they have registered the bowls used (Law 18.1.5).

FOOTWEAR AND ATTIRE:

As per Domestic Regulation 5 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls. Footwear and attire policies available on the Bowls Australia web site www.bowlsaustralia.com.au

STAMP ON BOWLS:

All bowls used during the event must carry a current World Bowls stamp of the current year or later. Random checking of bowls may occur prior to the commencement of games. Bowls Australia's bowls testing policy is available on the Bowls Australia web site www.bowlsaustralia.com.au.

Players requiring bowls testing shall be liable for the cost of the test.

ALTERATIONS TO THE FORMAT & LENGTH OF GAMES

- a. The Controlling Body reserves the right to alter the format, times of play and greens to suit local unforeseen circumstances, giving as much notice as practical.
- b. Where a program is interrupted or cannot be completed due to inclement weather or local conditions, the Jury of Appeal may amend the format and length of games to achieve a result or postpone the event where an outcome cannot be achieved.

ARRANGEMENT FOR PRACTICE: See Law 13 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls

REPLACEMENT / SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS

- a. **Pairs** - both players from the team must remain together (as entered in qualifying) for the Australian Open. Replacements / substitutes will not be allowed.
- b. **Triples** - teams must consist of at least two of the team members that competed at the qualifier. Bowls Australia must be notified of the reason for the replacement and the name of the new player. Bowls Australia reserves the right to reject the replacement player.
- c. The singles, pairs and triples events shall be played throughout by the competitors whose names appear on the scorecard of the first game. Players may change formations prior to the start of the subsequent game. The Tournament Director must be notified of all changes. Players will be required to complete the relevant paperwork regarding the adjustments made.
- d. A replacement shall be utilised in the following manner:
 1. The team may call upon an affiliated player to replace a triples team member before the commencement of the event. Substitute players will not be allowed after the team's first match has been started.
 2. Substitute player(s) are not permitted in the pairs or singles events.
 3. If the player / team is unable to complete any game already commenced during the competition, then the opponent(s) shall win on forfeit.

DELAYING PLAY: See Domestic Regulation 14 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls

RESTRICTING MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS DURING PLAY:

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

- Singles game
 - the opponents: after delivery of their third and fourth bowls.
- Pairs game (each player playing three bowls)
 - the leads: after delivery of their second & third bowls; and
 - the skips: after delivery of their first, second and third bowls.
- Triples game (each player playing two bowls)
 - the leads: after delivery of their second bowl;
 - the seconds: after delivery of their second bowl; and
 - the skips: after delivery of each of their bowls.

At the start of each end, the lead and second will be at the mat end.

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 the terms of this law, law 35 will apply.

DRUG TESTING:

Bowls Australia's Anti Doping Policy shall apply. See www.bowlsaustralia.com.au for details.

JURY OF APPEAL

A jury of appeal shall be appointed for the purpose of deciding upon any points not provided in the conditions of play, for dealing with any appeals from decisions made by umpires and/or the tournament committee, and generally for the purpose of exercising overall authority on behalf of Bowls Australia.

In the event of an appeal during the playing of the event, such appeals shall be made in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, and shall be directed to a Jury of Appeal which shall consist of :-

Brian Marsland - President
Neil Dalrymple - CEO
Bob Middleton - Tournament Director
Mark Cowan - National Officiating Director

PRIZE MONEY:

Prize money of \$120,000 will be available for the event. Distribution of the prize money will be as allocated on the Bowls Australia web site - www.bowlsaustralia.com.au.

OTHER LAWS, REGULATIONS & POLICIES

All other Laws, Regulations & Policies other than stated above shall conform to the Laws of the Sport of Bowls and Domestic Regulations for Australia, as published in September 2006 including amendments (located at www.bowlsaustralia.com.au)

The Bowls Australia Extreme Weather and Smoking Policies will apply to the entire event.