



GDBA OPEN SUMMER SHIELD COMPETITION-CONDITIONS OF PLAY–2025

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1.0 Control.

- 1.1.** The Gateway District Bowls Association Inc. (“GDBA”) is the controlling body of the Gateway Summer Shield competition. The GDBA adjudicates on any disputes relating to the Laws of the sport of bowls Crystal Mark 4th Edition, Domestic regulations, GDBA Constitution and By-laws and these conditions of play (“the competition rules”) and interprets the provisions thereof. Subject to the direction of the GDBA Board, the power to manage and adjudicate may be exercised by the GDBA Match committee (“Match Committee”) and/or the Chairman of Match (“COM”) as they may agree but, in the event of disagreement between the match committee and the COM, the Board will decide, and its decision will be final.
- 1.2.** The GDBA is empowered to rule on any matter not provided for in the competition rules and to make minor adjustments to the COPs to deal with unforeseen circumstances. The GDBA may make major adjustments to the COPs (such as adjustments which may affect the outcome of the competition) to deal with unforeseen circumstances with the agreement of a majority of the clubs entered in the competition. If major adjustments to the COPs are made, a club may withdraw its team(s) from the competition, but no refund or compensation will be payable.
- 1.3.** Subject to the direction of the GDBA or its delegate, the host Club is the controlling body on the day of the match for purposes such as allocation of rinks, conducting the toss to determine order of play, weather stoppages and delays and any other issues under the conditions of play which require immediate determination and for which it is unnecessary or impracticable to refer to the COM.
- 1.4.** A contravention of the laws and conditions mentioned above by a Club or player may result in disqualification of either or both, loss of points or the match as determined by GDBA or its delegates in clause 1.1.

2.0 Eligibility Interchanging and Declared Players.

- 2.1.** Clubs are responsible for the eligibility of all their players competing in this competition.
- 2.2.** A player must be a financial member of a GDBA Club at the start and duration of this event, and be registered with Bowls Queensland,(BQ),prior to the playing of the first round of this competition.
- 2.3.** In a calendar year no player shall play GDBA Summer Shield for more than one Club.
- 2.4.** Bowlslink. - A player must be a registered member of BowlsLink and player listings must be submitted through the BowlsLink platform.

3.0 Divisions and Structure.

- 3.1** The competition (Gateway Summer Shield) shall start on the first Saturday of February each year.
- 3.2** The event shall be divided into A and B divisions with sections in each division depending on nominations received,
- 3.3** Division A consisting of bowlers from Divisions 3,4,5 and 6, (open), and/or Division 2, (ladies), (2024 Pennant rating).

3.4 Division B consisting of bowlers from Divisions 7,8,9 and 10, (open), and/or Divisions 3,4 and 5, (ladies), (2024 Pennant rating).

3.5 Each side in a division shall consist of two (2) teams of three (3) bowl pairs and two (2) teams of two (2) bowl triples.

3.6 The Jack is to be respotted on the "T".

4.0 Promotion and Demotion of Players.

4.1. No player/s having played a total of three (3) games in any higher division or divisions shall be permitted to play in a lower division in subsequent games (including Finals). For the purposes of this clause, a player who is recorded as a reserve for a higher division in a round, but who does not play in the round is not deemed to have played in the higher division in that round

Note: Where a Club has two sides in any division, interchanging of players between "A" and "B" side is not permitted. The Club's responsibility must ensure sufficient players have qualified to play finals games. In exceptional circumstances of players' availability, the Match Committee, COM or his/her representative may authorise the use of another player from that Club.

5.0 Rounds Play Conditions.

5.1. The starting time of all games is 1.00pm. Changes to starting time, including special conditions for island Clubs, must be requested and approved by the Match Committee, COM or his representative, prior to the scheduled starting date and time. However, Clubs are encouraged to schedule games to avoid the hottest part of the day in Summer. These changes are to be agreed between the competing Clubs and approved by the Match Committee, COM or his representative, prior to the scheduled starting date and time.

5.2. After the starting date and time, thirty (30) minutes grace is permitted for the late arrival of a side or a player in that side.

5.3. The host Club's representative shall act as the GDBA Deputy for the day, and appoint an Umpire.

5.4. Practice at venues is permitted sixty (60) minutes prior to scheduled start time up until start time, but only on rinks allocated by the host club (which may include the playing/ drawn rinks). There will be no official "trial ends".

6.0 Finals Play Conditions.

6.1. A player may be promoted to a higher Division during finals play.

6.2. No player may be demoted during finals play.

6.3. A player may play in only one Division during finals play.

6.4. To be eligible for finals play; a player must have played a minimum of three (3) games in the round play of that Division or in a lower Division.

- 6.5.** Finals in all divisions of this competition shall be played on weekends.
- 6.6.** Finals and round play for all divisions shall consist of 104 ends, 4 teams playing 26 ends unless a side concedes.
- 6.7.** At completion of round play, the team that finishes first in each division will hold the Final for that division subject to the greens being acceptable to the Match Committee.
- 6.8.** In determining the winners of each Division:
- a. Winners and Runners-up of round play will play off to determine the winner for that Division.
 - b. The winner of the final is declared the 2025 Summer Shield Champion.
- 6.9.** If two or more sides are equal on match points, the finals positions are determined as follows:
- a. Total match points
 - b. Highest net score of shots, (i.e Margin).
 - c. The aggregate shots scored for shall be divided by the aggregate shots scored against. The side with the highest percentage result shall be a finalist. (Law 27.4).
- 6.10** If scores are equal at the completion of the finals matches, (26 ends per side), an extra end or ends shall be played by all rinks to determine the result. (Law 28.1).
- 6.11. Forfeit:** Until a result is determined, all players in a side shall remain at the venue whilst the match is in progress. A side failing to comply with this condition will be disqualified unless a player is injured, sick or a player is called out in case of an emergency.
- 6.12.** All green fees for finals currently shall be no more than \$15.00 per person per game and paid to the host club. Green fees for finals are reviewed annually at the GDBA June Council meeting.
- 6.13.** Finals play is subject to date and time change.
- 6.14.** If there are insufficient bowlers available to fill all sides entered by a competing club, the lowest numbered side shall be the side that withdraws. If after the first round of play, a club chooses to withdraw a side from this competition, the side that the club withdraws shall be the lowest numbered side from that club.

7.0. Scoring

7.1. The side scoring the highest number of shots in each match at the end of play shall be the winner.

7.2. In all finals, if overall scores are tied an extra end/s shall be played by all four (4) teams until a winner is declared.

7.3. The position of sides in a Division will be determined by awarding the following points for each Match of each round.

7.3.1. Four (4) Match points for the side with the highest aggregate shots plus two (2) Match points per winning team (one (1) point each for a drawn game).

7.3.2. Zero (0) Match points for the side with the lowest aggregate shots plus two (2) Match points per winning rink (one (1) point each for a drawn rink).

7.3.3. Two (2) Match point for each side if the aggregate shots are equal plus two (2) Match points per winning team (one (1) point each for a drawn game).

7.3.4. Where a side has been allocated a "Bye", no Match point will be awarded and no shots for and against recorded.

7.4. At the completion of any round, the relative position of the sides will be determined in decreasing order by:

7.4.1 If the Maximum Aggregate Match Points are equal, then the Maximum Aggregate Margin will be the difference between total shot for and total shots against. If then equal, the "total shots against" each side shall be divided by "the total shots for" each side. The team with the highest result shall be declared the higher ranked side.

7.5. If a side is disqualified, forfeits or withdraws after the draw, the opposing side shall be awarded the match and receive twelve (12) points for a win and a shot margin equal to the average of net shots margin recorded in all matches played in that round in that Division. The offending side shall receive no points and be debited with a shots margin equal to that credited to their opponents.

8.0. Movement and Positions of Players During Games.

8.1.0. Players are allowed to walk up to the head as follows:

8.1.1. Leads and seconds – After the seconds have bowled their second bowl. (Appendix A4.1).

8.1.2. Thirds – After they have bowled their second bowl.

8.1.3. Skips – After every bowl.

8.1.4. The skip, without wasting time, may call any player to the head at any time during play.

8.2.0. Position of players. (Law 12 & 13).

8.2.1. Players at the mat end of the rink, not delivering a bowl, are required to stand one (1) metre behind the mat.

8.2.2. Other than the members of a side directing the head, other players must stand a minimum of two (2) metres behind the head or on the bank.

8.3. Delayed Play.

8.3.1. If the Umpire observes or receives an appeal from one of the skips, and decides a player is deliberately delaying play (Appendix A.5):

- a. On the first occasion the Umpire will warn the player.
- b. Committing the same offence a second time, the end will be regarded as completed and the opponents of the offender will score as many shots as there are bowls in play by the opponent.
- c. If the player offends a third time, the game will be forfeited to the opponent.

9.0. Nominations

- a. Nominations close on 16th December 2024 and all entries must be accompanied by the nomination fee, and submitted through Bowlslink. Entries must be submitted by the advised closing date.
- b. All players must be registered members in Bowlslink and accept that player listings will be submitted through the Bowlslink platform.
- c. Any player who is in contravention of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls – Crystal Mark Fourth Edition, District constitution Rule B6 or District By-law 1, shall be ineligible to play.

10.0. Side Manager.

10.1. The manager of a side, appointed by their Club, shall be a financial member of that Club. The manager, at each game, in conjunction with the visiting manager attends the drawing of rinks, completion of cards, toss for the side's possession of the mat and attends the completion of the result sheet. When certified, the managers, as soon as possible after the completion of play, and by the home club, are to ensure the results are recorded in Bowlslink.

10.2.

Side managers shall ensure the practice ends, (under their control and not that of the umpire), are completed early to allow the game to commence at the scheduled starting time. The manager is the Club representative in matters concerning the playing of the match, notwithstanding the duties of the umpire. The host Club's manager and the visiting manager are to be in attendance at least 45 minutes before play commences. In the event that a visiting side manager is late another member of that side may be substituted.

10.3. The host Clubs must provide a master scoreboard and are responsible for the scores to be updated at regular intervals. Rink scoreboards should show the "home side" on the left of the upper section. The host Club is responsible for arranging the umpire for each game. Electronic score screens shall display scores in "parallel" format with the home side on the left and the visiting side on the right.

10.4. Cards must be kept in the safe custody of the Host Club's Games Director, or his/her representative until the results of the round are declared by the GDBA, Match Committee, CoM or his/her representative.

11.0. Interruptions to Play - (Play not completed).

11.1. In the event of inclement weather, or other justifiable cause which prevents the commencement of play, the games affected will be deemed a tie and six points awarded to each side.

11.2. A match stopped and not completed in round play, the match being stopped shall be deemed complete if 60 ends or more have been played. Points are awarded on a match win and rink win basis.

11.3. If a match or matches are stopped and cannot be re-scheduled in a round play with less than 60 ends played, then the overall result shall be deemed a tie.

11.4. In the event that a round is cancelled, then zero (0) points will be awarded to all sides. (B.Q. weather policy).

11.5. Stoppages.

After the game has commenced, and excessive weather conditions prevail:

- a. A side may appeal to the Umpire, who will liaise with the host Club's duty manager and discuss what action is necessary.
- b. The host Club may stop the game if they consider it is being played in adverse conditions, damaging greens, or with their "duty of care", to protect the wellbeing of players.

11.6. When a match is cancelled in round play, the Match Committee, CoM or his/her representative may permit such games to be replayed if there is agreement between both Clubs that the games can be completed before the scheduled commencement date and time of the finals.

12.0. Attire.

12.1. All players and managers must be dressed in correct attire, compliant with GDBA By-laws and conditions of play.

12.2. All Club uniforms shall be worn and be registered with, and, approved by the GDBA, and must bear the B.A. (Bowls Australia) logo.

12.3. Each player and the manager in a side must be similarly attired (approved club uniform).

12.4. Mufti clothing is not permitted.

13.0. Miscellaneous Items.

13.1. The date of commencement of the Summer Shield season shall be on or near the first Saturday in February each year. (2025 Summer Shield shall commence on 1st February 2025.)

- 13.2.** Entry fees for round play shall be determined at the June GDBA Council meeting each calendar year.
- 13.3.** Round play: Green fees for round play shall be paid to the players Club.
- 13.4.** Provision of National Accredited Umpire is the host Club Games Director or his representative responsibility. The Umpire's name shall be announced before play commences, (Law 43). Should a Club be unable to supply an Umpire they may contact another Club or the District Umpires Committee for assistance.
- 13.5.** An accredited coach must inform the Umpire of his name and the player, side or side he intends to coach thirty minutes (30) prior to the start of the match.
- 13.6.** Junior male and female bowlers, financial members of a GDBA Club, registered with B.Q, are permitted to play matches. A parent or guardian must accompany a junior, except when a registered Blue Card Holder accepts responsibility for a junior bowler.
- 13.7.** When a player uses a bowling arm; the player must continue to use the bowling arm for the remainder of the game. The player using a bowling arm may deliver the jack without using the arm. Contravening this policy may result in the player being disqualified and the side finishing the game with three players. In the event that a player is disqualified, (DR 2.6.1) shall apply.
- 13.8.** In compliance with smoking regulations, players must adhere to DSOA & NOSA of the host club.
- 13.9.** During play the use of electronic devices by players and spectators is not permitted within six (6) metres of the green. Except "on call" emergency personnel, who shall notify the Umpire before the start of play.
- 13.10.** A side using temporary adhesive markings is required to have them attached in the same manner on all bowls in use by every member of that side. (A large ring and small dot. (Law 52.1.8 & Dr 4.7).
- 13.11.** No afternoon tea break shall be taken. Host Clubs may provide refreshments at the end of play.
- 14.0. Greens.**
- 14.1.** Clubs are to select their best greens and rinks for play. Preferred "speed of the green" for ambient weather conditions is 14 – 16 seconds.
- 14.2.** Width of greens shall not be less than 4.3m and not more than 5.8m. (Law 49.1.2).
- 14.3.** On synthetic covered greens artificial lighting is permitted. On uncovered, artificial and grass greens, artificial lighting may be used to assist the completion of play.
- 14.4.** Host Clubs are required to have their greens prepared and available for practice one (1) hour before the scheduled starting time.
- 14.5.** Social play should not be played on a green selected for use in a Shield round; unless there is a minimum of one rink buffer between Shield players and social play.

15.0 Score Cards and Results.

- 15.1. Score cards are to be completed front and back and signed with time recorded at the completion of each match.
- 15.2. After signing, scorecards are to be delivered to the games manager.
- 15.3. Should a mistake occur, and the opponents disagree then the umpire shall adjudicate.
- 15.4. Thence, if no resolution is agreed, the end where the mistake occurred shall be declared a "nil score" and the scorecards amended accordingly.
- 15.5. Side Managers are required to complete and sign off on the match result sheet. Visiting Side Manager must check, confirm and countersign the match result sheets. Visiting Manager is to receive a copy of the completed match result sheets. Completed match result sheets and score cards are to be retained by the competing clubs. These records are to be retained and may be provided as evidence in the event of a dispute over match results. Prior to match day, both home and visiting clubs are required to enter their sides into Bowlslink.
- 16.6 The Home Club is responsible for entering the results into the Bowlslink system, including swapping any away side rinks to match the drawn rinks. Certified results are to be entered into the Bowlslink system no later than 7:30pm on match day. If the Host Club fails to finalise the results within 24 hours after the completion of the match, no match points will be awarded until the results are entered. Visiting Clubs will not be disadvantaged if the Host Clubs fail to finalise the match results. In the event of an unfinished match the results sheet must show scores and number of ends played by each side when play stopped.

Assistance is available via GDBA Bowlslink Co-ordinator Mr David Chattin Ph 0433 592 858, email bowlslink@gatewaybowls.org.au, or, CoM Mr Bill Harrison Ph 0428 506 493, email match@gatewaybowls.org.au.

- 16.7. Progressive and final results of the Pennant competition can be viewed via Bowlslink Results.

16.0 Finals Play Schedule.

Final series shall be played as follows:

- a. First placed plays Second place Division A-----22nd March 2025
- b. First placed plays Second place Division B-----22nd March 2025
- c. Winner of the Final is declared Summer Shield Champions 2025.