



POLICY TITLE: AFFILIATION AND ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY POLICY

RELATED POLICIES:	Player Clearance Policy Disciplinary Policy
RESPONSIBLE OFFICERS:	Chief Executive Officer Audit, Risk and Policy Committee
AUTHORITY:	Bowls Australia Board
APPLICABLE FORMS:	Interstate Pennant Declaration
APPROVED:	March, 2017
NEXT REVIEW DATE:	February, 2019

1 STRUCTURE

Bowls Australia (BA) is officially recognised as the National Sporting Organisation (NSO) for lawn bowls in Australia by World Bowls (WB), The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) the Australian Commonwealth Games Association (ACGA).

The structure of bowls in Australia is such that:

- 1.1 State and Territory Associations (STA's) are recognised as Member States and, as such, are members of BA. Each STA is to conduct and administer bowls in its particular State or Territory.
- 1.2 Clubs are recognised by BA as a result of their affiliation with their Member STA.
- 1.3 Affiliated players (Individual members as defined in the constitution) are recognised by BA as a result of their membership of an affiliated Club and the payment of fees to its STA, BA and WB.

2 AFFILIATION – CLUBS OR PLAYING VENUES

- 2.1 Bowling Clubs must be affiliated with an STA and:
 - 2.1.1 Must be an incorporated body or duly constituted legal entity under relevant legislation in that STA.
 - 2.1.2 Have and maintain insurance policies including public liability and professional indemnity insurance.
 - 2.1.3 Must ensure that players are financial, affiliated players with full playing rights.
 - 2.1.4 Must comply with responsibilities as required under the constitutions of BA and their STA.
 - 2.1.5 Must collect and forward to their STA those affiliation fees and any other fees that may be prescribed from time to time by BA in conjunction with STA's from all members with playing rights.
 - 2.1.6 Must collect and forward membership data to be included in the national bowls census as required.

3 AFFILIATION FEES

- 3.1 Affiliation fees are calculated using the fixed fee model and are determined by the BA Board and shall be paid as and when specified.
- 3.2 Affiliation fees are determined by the BA board (for increases less than 10%) or approved by the state consultative body (for increases greater than 10%).
- 3.3 BA will calculate the actual figure for invoicing based on the previous year's membership payment and invoicing to STAs will be in two instalments:
 - October 1 – 50% payment based on previous years actual membership
 - February 1 – other type of payment.
- 3.4 STAs must ensure that payment of fees covers all affiliated members with playing rights in their STA.

- 3.5 STAs must advise BA of the number of affiliated members with playing rights in their STA by November 30 each year.

4 AFFILIATION – PLAYERS

- 4.1 All players within Australia must be affiliated with at least one (1) STA as a result of their being a financial member of an affiliated Club with STA and BA membership.
- 4.2 Participants within a licensed Jack Attack program are registered for the purposes of participating in the Jack Attack program only, and are not entitled to any other benefits of membership, including participation in any other competitions/events until they become an affiliated member.
- 4.3 Only affiliated Clubs who have registered for a license to deliver the Jack Attack program are permitted to deliver this program and use BA's Intellectual Property. Delivering the Jack Attack program without approval may result in proceedings in accordance with the BA Disciplinary Policy.

5 DUAL REGISTRATION – DECLARATION OF NOMINATED CLUB

- 5.1 All players in Australia must be registered with at least one (1) STA.
- 5.2 A player may be a member of more than one (1) affiliated Club.
- 5.3 A player may be a member of multiple Clubs in more than one (1) STA.
- 5.4 A player must declare only one (1) of those Clubs in one (1) STA as their Nominated Club for the purpose of playing in State Championships and other championship events conducted by an STA or BA during a Bowling Season (all to be defined by the relevant STA).
- 5.5 Playing in Pennant conducted by any STA shall not constitute a declaration of a player's Nominated Club under this policy. Players are permitted to play Pennant in more than one (1) STA without requiring a change to their Nominated Club. For clarity, Pennant is not a championship event.

6 ELIGIBILITY – PENNANT

- 6.1 Interstate:
- 6.1.1 A player may play Pennant in more than one (1) STA within the same bowling season.
- 6.1.2 The player must be registered with each of the STAs in which they play.
- 6.1.3 An Interstate clearance is not required unless the player intends to change their Nominated Club.
- 6.1.4 The player must complete and submit an Interstate Pennant Declaration prior to being permitted to play Pennant in that STA.
- 6.2 Intrastate:
- 6.2.1 A player shall not be permitted to play Pennant for two (2) or more Clubs which are each affiliated with the same STA in the same bowling season unless specifically permitted by the STA under the conditions of play applicable to the event.

7 ELIGIBILITY – INTERSTATE REPRESENTATION

- 7.1 A player's eligibility to represent a particular STA in any interstate representative fixture shall be determined by the STA with which a player's Nominated Club is affiliated.
- 7.2 A player shall only be eligible to represent their STA if they are a member of their Nominated Club which is affiliated with the STA they are selected to represent at the time of entries close.
- 7.3 In addition to complying with the criteria in 7.1 and 7.2, a player must meet the eligibility requirements within the Conditions of Play of the event.

8 ELIGIBILITY – CHAMPIONSHIPS (INTRASTATE AND INTERSTATE)

- 8.1 A player shall not be eligible to play in the same (or an equivalent) state championship event or other championship event at two (2) or more Clubs in any one bowling season, regardless of whether those Clubs are affiliated with the same, or with a different STA.

9 CONCURRENT EVENTS

- 9.1 A player who qualifies for more than one event under the control of the same controlling body and is instructed to play in one event, must not be penalised for failing to attend any other event which is set down to be played at the same time.
- 9.2 When a player is scheduled to play in a championship event being conducted by an STA, district/zone/region or club as the controlling body and is not able to do so because of:
- 9.2.1 Selection to play or take part in a selection trial for Australia or their State or Territory in an international or national event;
- 9.2.2 Appointment to Officiate at an international or national event;

To be played at the same time for such an event, reasonable time being allowed for travel, then:

- 9.2.2.1 The controlling body should use their best endeavours to reschedule the championship event, or
- 9.2.2.2 If the event cannot be rescheduled, then the player should decide which event to contest.

10 PREGNANCY

- 10.1 The individual member should consider their own health implications with regard to participating and competing in the sport of lawn bowls.

11 GENDER IDENTITY

11.1 Any clarification required on gender identity will be heard on a case by case basis and shall in the first instance be referred to the controlling body of the relevant event.

12 POLICY BREACH

12.1 Any breach of this policy may be dealt with according to the disciplinary policy.