

Conditions of Play for Provincial Playdowns and Sanctioned Tournaments - Revised 2009

General Conditions

1. The conduct of the Provincial Playdowns and Sanctioned Tournaments, except the Junior Tournaments, shall be the responsibility of the Bowling Program Committee of the Lawn Bowls Association of Alberta (LBAA).
2. Provincial Playdowns are in men's singles, women's singles, men's fours, women's fours, men's pairs, women's pairs, junior men's singles, junior women's singles, senior men's triples, senior women's triples, and mixed pairs.
3. The Sanctioned Tournaments are the men's indoor singles, women's indoor singles, mixed triples, senior mixed triples, novice pairs and men's and women's under 25 World Junior Cup Qualifier.
4. Each event shall be open to eligible members with tournament dates, deadlines for entries and entry fees to be established by the Bowling Program Committee and approved by the LBAA executive.
5. All play shall be conducted under World Bowls (WB) rules as adopted by Bowls Canada Boulingrin (BCB), unless otherwise stated in these Conditions of Play. Singles 21 points, Pairs 18 ends, Triples 16 ends and Fours 18 ends.
6. Any team receiving a bye is allowed to practice on a rink identified by the Drawmaster as one on which they are not scheduled to play on that day.
7. If a player wins one of the Provincial Playdown events, that player shall not be allowed to enter any other Playdown event during that year.
8. Players entering Provincial Playdowns must be willing and able to commit to competing in the relevant Canadian Championships. For the indoor singles, the highest placed player who is both a Canadian citizen and is committed to compete in the National qualifier shall be the Alberta champion for the purpose of gaining direct entry into the National qualifier.
9. There must be at least four entries in a Playdown or sanctioned tournament for the event to be held, except a minimum of two entries are required in indoor singles and under 25 for both men and women.
10. NOVICE COMPETITION shall be limited to those having not more than three (3) years of lawn bowling memberships ANYWHERE (including the current year) and who previously have not won an Alberta Championship in Fours, Pairs, Singles, Mixed Pairs, Senior Triples or Indoor Singles. Novice experience will not commence until the year following one's thirteenth (13) birthday.

Residence

1. All players must have their principal residence in the Province of Alberta as of January 1 of the year in which they participate in the Alberta Provincial Playdowns.

Affiliation

1. All players must be members in good standing of a club, which is affiliated with the LBAA before the entry deadline for an event. Current proof of membership (e.g. affiliated club card) may be required to be shown prior to commencement of play.
2. If the LBAA office receives notice in writing or by email that a member is not in good standing with Bowls Canada Boulingrin and therefore not eligible to compete in any Canadian championship playdowns, then unless the LBAA office receives a retraction prior to registration closing for Alberta playdowns, the member will not be allowed to participate in provincial playdowns.
3. Members of pairs, triples and fours teams do not need to be members of the same affiliated club.

Age of Participants

1. Juniors shall be those up to and including 18 years of age as of January 1 of the year in which they participate in the Junior Singles tournament.
2. To be eligible to enter the under 25 World Cup Qualifier, competitors must have reached their 18th birthday by 31st December of the year in which they participate in this event and must not have reached their 26th birthday by this date.
3. Senior Triples: Notice of Age Change: The minimum age for competing is 60 years of age. Players must have reached their 60th birthday in the year of the championship. Thus players in this year Senior Triples Championships must turn 60 in 2009 (this year means January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009).

Substitutions

1. The Emergency Committee must approve emergency substitutions. Once the playdowns begin, in the event of illness or any other unforeseen circumstance, a substitute may be allowed as follows:
 - One substitute will be permitted in pairs, triples and fours. A substitute may not play in the skip position but may play in any other position. After two games the substitute becomes a member of the team and may play in any position according to the rules. The original player may return to the team provided that less than two games have been missed.
 - A substitute must be eligible to play in the tournament, particularly:
 - Be a member of a club affiliated with LBAA
 - Be of the correct gender for the team
 - Meet the age restrictions, if any, for the tournament
 - If the tournament is a playdown, not have won another playdown tournament in the same season
 - Not have played in any capacity on another team that has competed in the tournament
2. No substitutions shall be allowed in singles - any unfinished games will be forfeited.

Forfeited Game

1. It is the responsibility of each player to be aware of the start time for each game. The umpire shall score one shot against an absent player or team after every ten-minute period that they are late and it shall be counted as an end played. At the end of thirty minutes the game shall be forfeited to the opposing player or team.
2. An umpire, either upon request, or having noted specific infractions of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls or these Conditions of Play, will warn the offending player or players. If the Umpire then considers that the infractions are both continuing and deliberate, the game will be forfeited to the opponents. Non-defaulter 2 points zero shots, defaulter zero points zero shots.

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Tournament Notes

1. LBAA requires that winners be established for first through fourth place as follows: first through third for award presentation at the conclusion of Provincial events and first through fourth for points assigned by the High Performance Committee
2. If an eligible team (or player if singles) does not wish to play a match for third place, then this team may forfeit and will be awarded fourth place, and if their opponent wishes to play for third place, they will be awarded third place by default. If neither team wishes to play for third place, then they both will be awarded fourth place and no third place award will be given. Under no circumstances will a random coin toss or similar methods be used to determine a third place finish. If both teams wish to play for third place, then, upon a mutual decision of both

teams and the Drawmaster, a lesser number of ends (minimum 4 ends) may be played to determine the third place finisher.

3. If the third place winner is not decided on the green, then it must be a mutual decision between the affected players and the Drawmaster must be notified of the decision for inclusion in the official report submitted to LBAA.
4. If the fourth place winner is not decided on the green, then it must be a mutual decision between affected players and the Drawmaster must be notified of the decision for inclusion in the official report submitted to LBAA.
5. In the event that the top entry in a single section round robin wins all its games and is declared the first place finisher without a playoff game, and therefore the second place entry plays third place for silver and bronze, all references to third place shown in items 2, 3 and 4 above apply to second place and all references to fourth place shown in items 2, 3 and 4 above apply to third place.
6. Similarly, a tiebreaker match may be forfeited by either or both teams. If both teams forfeit then they both are considered to have lost the match, and final positions will be determined accordingly by the Drawmaster.
7. During the playoff/tie break phase of the tournament, if a team wishes to default their match any time after a minimum of 50% of the match ends have been completed, they may do so.
8. During the round robin phase of the tournament, all matches must be played to the full number of ends required with the following exceptions:
9. If neither team has any mathematical possibility, no matter how remote, of finishing in first through fourth in the tournament, and with the prior approval of the Drawmaster, then both teams may mutually forfeit their match prior to its start.
10. If neither team has any mathematical possibility, no matter how remote, of finishing in first through fourth in the tournament, and if a team wishes to default their match any time after a minimum of 50% of the match ends have been completed, they may do so, but only with the approval of the Drawmaster.

Emergency Committee

1. An Emergency Committee shall be formed for each event to rule on issues that may arise. The committee will consist of the Drawmaster, the Greenskeeper/Club Representative, the Head Umpire and a LBAA program committee member.
2. The Emergency Committee has the right to:
 - Deal with any disputes that may arise.
 - Determine when stoppage in play is necessary due to local conditions including:
 - The right to cancel play for the remainder of the day or weekend,
 - Alter the length of games if necessary to make up for lost time.
3. The draw format for our Provincial Tournaments will be published along with the Conditions of Play and distributed to all clubs and published on the Lawn Bowls Association of Alberta website.

Behaviour

1. Failure to play or complete any game, except as provided for under tournament notes 2-10 or an obvious failure to attempt to be competitive, will be construed as unsportsmanlike conduct, and subject all players on the team or the singles player, to suspension from competing in Provincial or Canadian Championships for one calendar year from the date of the infraction.
2. All players must report to the official umpire for bowl and shoe inspection at least 30 minutes prior to the opening ceremonies on the first day. During the event, other equipment must not be substituted for that which has been inspected and accepted without first obtaining the approval of the official umpire.
3. Smoking by players or officials anywhere on the playing area is prohibited.
4. Players and Officials shall not consume alcoholic beverages during play or until their duties are complete for the day.
5. Event winners may be required to sign a waiver form stating that they are not users of prohibited substances as specified by Sports Canada. All competitors should be aware that, should they represent Alberta at a Canadian Championship, they must comply with the BCB Anti-Doping Policy.

Dress Code

1. All players and officials entering a Provincial Playdown or Sanctioned Tournament (except Juniors and Novice Pairs) shall adhere to the following dress code on the green.
 - All participants must wear clean, appropriate and well-maintained clothing.
 - Shirts to be white or team colours.
 - Team colours for skirts, slacks or shorts.
 - Shorts to be no more than three (3) inches above the knee.
 - Hats, visors, outer wear and rain gear may be of any colour or style and need not be uniform for all members of the team.
 - Only approved footwear (smooth soled and heelless) shall be permitted.
2. Each player shall be held responsible for dress code during said competition. Failure to comply upon notification, and after review by the Drawmaster and Emergency Committee, may result in forfeiture of match to the opposing team.

Officials

1. Accredited Umpires and Markers should be used whenever possible.
2. The Drawmaster shall not be a competitor in the tournament.
3. The Emergency Committee members are considered Officials.

Coaches

1. A certified bowls coach may accompany a team or individual. The coach must be at least a Certified Level 1 Bowls Coach with a NCCP passport and current qualifications. The designated Coach must report to the Umpire PRIOR to the commencement of any level of provincial play. The coach will not cause any contravention of the rules of the game and must not disrupt the flow of the game. The Coach is permitted to give advice to his/her team, or player in a Singles game, from beyond the limits of the rink of play BUT only when said advice has been requested by the player(s). When seeking advice, the player(s) may step off the green should he/she desire.

Bowls

1. Bowls must display a visible IBB / WBB / WB stamp.

Abuse of Officials

1. Game Official shall be defined as umpires, drawmasters and markers.
2. Verbal or physical abuse of an opponent, umpire, marker or drawmaster will not be tolerated. Should any LBAA (Lawn Bowls Association of Alberta) member be found in violation of the Code of Conduct Laws of the Games, the following shall apply:

First Offence:

The offending player shall receive a letter of reprimand outlining the details of the offence and the concerns of the LBAA.

Second Offence:

The offending player shall be suspended from participating in any and all LBAA sanctioned events for a period of one year, dating from the occurrence of the infraction

Third Offence:

The offending player shall receive a lifetime suspension from participating in all LBAA sanctioned events.

These restrictions shall remain in effect for so long as the offending person continues to participate in LBAA events.

The Process

All matters related to the aforementioned will be dealt with directly by the Grievance committee of the LBAA, provided that a letter of complaint is received from the game official involved.

The Grievance committee of the LBAA shall deal directly with the related matter prior to the next scheduled event.

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