

BOWLS USA

DOMESTIC REGULATIONS

FOR CRYSTAL MARK THIRD EDITION

Plain English Campaign's Crystal Mark does not apply to these regulations. The "Domestic Regulations" apply only where Bowls USA is the Member National Authority as recognized by World Bowls.

MISCELLANEOUS DEFINITIONS

- 101.1** Bowls USA: Formerly United States Lawn Bowls Association
- 101.2** Home Club: Club from which the member's Bowls USA dues are paid.
- 101.3** Domestic: Club-, Division- or Bowls USA-sponsored events.
- 101.4** International: North American Challenge, Asia/Pacific Championships, Atlantic Championships and other World Bowls-sanctioned events.

DOMESTIC REGULATIONS

The Laws of the Sport of Bowls permit Bowls USA to make regulations ('domestic regulations') to cover a number of aspects of the sport. The following regulations are made in accordance with Law 10.5 and Law 57.1.

102 IMPROPER DELIVERY OF THE JACK (see Law 10.5)

For domestic play, the minimum distance between a delivered jack and the mat line is 21 meters as measured in a straight line from the center of the mat line to the nearest point of the jack, after the jack has been centered.

- 102.1** The distance of 20 meters mentioned in Laws 19.1.4, 56.5.1, 56.5.2.4, and Appendix B.4.2 shall be changed to 18 meters.
- 102.2** The distance of 25 meters mentioned in definition C.12, Laws 6.1.1, 49.12, 49.13, and appendices B.2.1, B.4.1, and B.4.2 shall be changed to 23 meters.
- 102.3** The distance of 23 meters mentioned in Law 42.2.2 and appendix B.4.2 shall be changed to 21 meters.

103 THE GREEN (see Law 46.5)

- 103.1** All greens built before 2003 are approved by Bowls USA.
- 103.2** Bowls USA recommends that all indoor and outdoor greens built after 2003 should be designed and built in accordance with Laws 46.2, 46.3, and 46.4.

104 CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Cell phones, headsets, pagers, and/or other sound-producing devices must be muted or turned down. Sounds for these devices shall not distract other players. Violations shall be considered a violation of rink possession. (See Law 13)
This Domestic Regulation does not supersede Law 41.7.

105 SUBSTITUTE AND REPLACEMENT PLAYERS (see Law 33.9)

105.1 CONSTITUTED TEAM

- 105.1.1** When an event or tournament mandates an entry prior to the date of the event or Tournament, then the submitted entry will be considered "Constituted" unless a member becomes unavailable for any part of the event or Tournament, in which case Domestic Regulation 105.2 will apply.
- 105.1.2** When the correct number of eligible players are assembled into a team and each member of the team has played their first bowl in a game, the team is considered "constituted" and each member thereof is a "constituted team member" for the remainder of the competition in which the team is entered, except when Domestic Regulation 105.1 applies.
- 105.1.3** After a team is constituted, no alteration in team membership or order of play shall be permitted during the remainder of that game except as required should a substitute become necessary.
- 105.1.4** A constituted team may change their playing positions between succeeding matches in the same competition, subject to the requirements of Domestic Regulation 105.2.8 if a substitute becomes necessary.

105.2 SUBSTITUTIONS

- 105.2.1** All substitutes shall be specifically approved by the Controlling Body or their representative.
- 105.2.2** Only one approved substitute shall be permitted on any team at any one time. If two team members are absent or if an approved substitute is not available to replace a single absent team member, the game shall be forfeited.
- 105.2.3** If, due to the conditions in Domestic Regulation 105.2.2 or for other reasons, a team forfeits before the start of the first game in a competition. any available members of the team so forfeiting shall be considered as fully eligible players and may play as substitutes in that competition.
- 105.2.4** If an eligible player, entered as a team member in a competition, plans to transfer to another team as a substitute before play has started in the first game of the competition, they shall declare their intent to the controlling body or their representative and have their transfer officially approved; otherwise they normally would be considered to be a constituted member of the team on which they were originally entered.
- 105.2.5** All members of a constituted team shall be ineligible to act as substitutes in the same competition even though the team has been defeated and is no longer playing in that competition.
- 105.2.6** If a team is permitted a substitute, the substitute may be changed at any time during the game, or between succeeding games in the same competition, or they may continue in the competition if they remain eligible (See Domestic Regulation 105.2.1)
- 105.2.7** A constituted member of a team for whom a substitute was obtained may, if still eligible, join or rejoin the team at any time after the

completion of an end in their original position, at which time the other team members shall revert to their original positions.

105.2.8 A substitute may play any position except skip. In the case of Triples and in Fours, the skip may arrange the positions of the rest of the team as desired.

105.2.9 Failure to observe these substitution rules are grounds for the opponent to appeal to the Controlling Body for a decision to have the game awarded in their favor.

THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Rules and Regulations Pertaining to the Playdowns and Championships

106 REQUIREMENTS for EACH ENTRY

106.1 Lawn bowlers wishing to compete in a Divisional Playdown which will determine that Division's Representatives to the National Championships must be:

106.1.1 A citizen of the United States;

106.1.2 A Bowls USA member prior to the Playdowns;

106.1.3 Financially in good standing for all bowls-related obligations;

106.1.4 Able to certify, if a member of more than one division, that they have not entered the Playdowns in any other Division;

106.1.5 Willing to certify that they will compete at the Championships as that Division's representative or as the runner(s)-up in case of default by the winners;

106.1.6 Aware that any Playdowns winner(s) who do not fulfill the above requirements may face possible sanctions from their Division.

106.2 Proof that any of the above requirements have not been fully met can be considered as cause for disqualification.

107 SELECTION and REPORTING of DIVISIONAL ENTRIES

107.1 Each Division shall run a Playdown to determine the Division's singles and pairs representatives. Each Division may use any method of play consistent within these Rules and Regulations.

107.2 Each Division shall certify their official singles and pairs entries, including the runner(s)-up, to the National Championships Tournament Director no later than 30 days prior to the opening day of the Championships.

108 SUBSTITUTIONS

108.1 During Playdowns, no substitutions shall be permitted once play has commenced.

108.2 During the Championships, a substitution shall be permitted only under conditions specified in Domestic Regulations 105.2.3, 105.2.4, and 105.2.5 of these Rules and Regulations.

108.3 If illness or another acceptable reason prevents a singles entry or one or both members of a pairs team from continuing in the competition, substitution will be permitted only as listed in the following items:

108.3.1 Singles: The substitute shall be the next player in the order in the

Playdowns, i.e., the runner-up, etc.

- 108.3.2** Pairs: The substitute shall be the next complete team (both players intact as originally entered) in the order of winning in the playdowns, i.e., the runners-up, etc. Because pairs depends on team effort, the combining of players into a new team is not permitted, except as an emergency measure under control of the Tournament Director per Domestic Regulation 108.4.
- 108.4** To prevent the possibility of a Division's default, the Tournament Director, after consultation with the Division's Executive Board, may appoint a replacement for a missing singles entrant or for one or both of the members of a pairs team, providing the substitute(s) meets the following criteria:
 - 108.4.1** A current Bowls USA member;
 - 108.4.2** Must be of the same gender and division as the defaulting player; and
 - 108.4.3** Did not compete in the playdowns of any other division that year.
- 108.5** If a singles player or one or both members of a pairs team cannot be replaced, scores for the involved teams will be as follows:
 - 108.5.1** All completed games shall be recorded per the points earned.
 - 108.5.2** For games not completed or not played: the team receiving the 'forfeit win' will receive 2 (two) match points and given the average score of the winning teams in the other matches played in that round of competition. The forfeiting team will receive 0 (zero) match points and the average score of the losing teams in the other matches played in that round of competition.
- 108.6** If none of these rules about substitutions adequately apply to a situation that arises at the Championships, immediately notify the Tournament Director of all pertinent facts and information. The Tournament Director will issue a ruling which shall be final.

109 GENERAL RULES

- 109.1** The Bowls USA Council shall appoint a specific Councilor from the host Division to be the Tournament Director for the National Championships. The Councilor appointed may delegate this authority.
- 109.2** No member may play in both the singles and pairs in the National Championships in the same year.
- 109.3** All bowls used in the National Championships must carry the official ALBA, IBB, WBB or WB stamp or must have a certification from an official bowls tester. Date and serial number must be legible.
- 109.4** All matters concerning the National Championships, except financial matters, shall be referred to the Tournament Director.
- 109.5** All play at the Championships shall be Round Robin. All singles games will be 21 shots. All pairs games shall be 18 ends. Tied games in pairs shall remain. All games will be completed except in tie-break situations where the result is inevitable.
- 109.6** The winner of each game at the Championships shall be awarded 3 (three) points; 0 (zero) points for a loss; for a tied pairs game, each team will receive 1 (one) point.
- 109.7** No more than two games may be scheduled or played on any given day at the Championships unless playoffs are required. More than two games per day may be scheduled at the Division level for the Playdowns.

- 109.8 At the end of round-robin play, if two players or teams are tied for first place, they will play off for the championship.
- 109.9 The *Conditions of Play*, as described in Appendix A.1 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, shall be provided in writing to each Division no less than thirty (30) days prior to the first day of the Championships.
- 109.10 There shall be no practice bowls prior to trial bowls on each day of the National Championships.

110 DRESS CODE

- 110.1 At Opening Ceremonies.
 - 110.1.1 All participants must wear white- or cream-colored slacks.
 - 110.1.2 Blazers in the Division's color shall be in the possession of each player. At the discretion of the Tournament Director, their wearing may not be required.
- 110.2 During competition:
 - 110.2.1 Shirts for all six team members must be predominantly of the Division's color.
 - 110.2.2 Below-the-waist attire:
 - 110.2.2.1 May be white, cream, or colored.
 - 110.2.2.2 Pairs teams must coordinate their choices.
 - 110.2.2.3 Shorts or skirts may be no more than 3 inches above the knee.
 - 110.2.3 Footwear must be flat-soled and heel-less.
 - 110.2.4 Medical footwear may be worn with the approval of the Tournament Director.
 - 110.2.5 Advertising is permitted in accordance with Bowls USA Rules and Regulations.
- 110.3 Penalties:
 - 110.3.1 The Tournament Director may declare a player in violation of the Dress Code.
 - 110.3.2 A first offense shall receive a warning.
 - 110.3.3 A penalty for a second (or additional) offense(s) may be the loss of a game.

DRESS CODE FOR THE U.S. OPEN AND OTHER TOURNAMENTS SPONSORED BY BOWLS USA

111 Bowls USA requires the following at all times:

- 111.1 Footwear must be flat-soled and heel-less.
- 111.2 Team members must wear white or matching-colored shirts.
 - 111.2.1 Men's shirts must have both collars and sleeves.
 - 111.2.2 Women's shirts must have collars.
 - 111.2.3 Shorts may be no shorter than 3 (three) inches above the knee.
- 111.3 Team members must wear white or matching colored below-the-waist attire.
- 111.4 Medical footwear may be worn with the approval of the Tournament Director.
- 111.5 Advertising is permitted in accordance with Bowls USA Rules and Regulations.
- 111.6 Penalties:

- 111.6.1** The Tournament Director shall have the power to declare a player in Violation of the Dress Code.
- 111.6.2** The Tournament Director or its designee shall warn an offender upon his/her first offense.
- 111.6.3** The penalty for a second (or additional) offense(s) may be the loss of a game.