

## **SUBJECT: MEMBERSHIP**

Proposed: 1/10/2001

Approved: 2/10/2001

Revised: 10/10/2002

Proposed: 5/18/2016

Proposed and Approved: 10/23/2021

One of the principal purposes of Bowls USA is to promote the game of bowls to individuals and lawn bowling clubs, and to assist in establishing new clubs.

Geographically, Bowls USA is made up of seven (7) divisions. The basic premise is that **membership in Bowls USA derives from membership in a Division.**

The Bowls USA Constitution provides that Division membership shall be open to all regularly organized lawn bowling *clubs*, resorts and other organizations that play the game of bowls on level greens of their own club or on which they are authorized to play.

Each affiliated club active member shall, by reason of their membership in one of the affiliated clubs, be a member of Bowls USA upon the payment of dues to Bowls USA by their affiliated club treasurer.

From this foundation, it is the responsibility of a Bowls USA Division to:

- Facilitate creation of new lawn bowling clubs and/or greens by being a resource to interested parties
- Affiliate lawn bowling clubs and integrate them in Division activities
  - The Division must collect dues for each member of an affiliated club to support Division activities
  - The Division may establish club incentive programs to encourage 100% Bowls USA membership
- Act as the liaison between affiliated clubs and Bowls USA
  - Provide and support Councilors to represent the Division, and its clubs, in Bowls USA policy-making and actions
  - Maintain an updated and current list of the affiliated clubs and the members of those clubs to be provided to Bowls USA on an annual basis
  - Remit Bowls USA membership dues
- Provide “at-large” membership for lawn bowlers
  - For those members who live an unrealistic distance from any affiliated club
  - Remit Bowls USA membership dues
- Accommodate “Club within a club” affiliations
  - This may exist where the homeowner’s association prohibits clubs that require subsequent membership or affiliation in national, state, or regional organizations, such as Bowls USA
  - This affiliated club must have its own set of Officers and Directors, maintain its own records, and have its own right to use the green