

World Bowls Laws of the Sport of Bowls Fourth Edition

World Bowls Laws Committee undertook a review of the Crystal Mark Third Edition of the Laws of the Sport in 2021/22 to create the Fourth Edition.

Below is a summary of the changes made to the Third Edition.

New / revised Law	Old Law	Summary of Change
C.21	23.3	Definition of measuring relocated from Law 23.3 to definition C.21
C.28.2	C.27.2	Amended the definition of Rink of Play to include side boundaries and faces of the banks
	C.27.4	Deleted and content incorporated into C.28.2
1		Deleted duplicate law numbers 1.1 to 1.5 as not consistent with any other law structure
2.4	52.1.9	Relocated law 52.1.9 to new Law 2.4
4.4.2		Reworded in accordance with PEC advice
5.1.1		Inclusion of Trial Ends when moving an interrupted game between a vegetation green and a synthetic or indoor green
8.3		Reworded to include Singles players
9.5		Reworded to include Singles players
9.6		Reworded to include Singles players
	11.2.2	Law 11.2.2 deleted
13.3		New law to state that a player must not deliver a bowl before the previous bowl has come to rest.
13.4	13.3	Renumbered and reworded to include delivering a bowl before the previous bowl has come to rest.
13.4.2	13.3.2	Reworded to include Singles players
14.4		Replaced the word “fixed” with “placed”
16.2		Replaced the word “moved” with “displaced”
	19.1.1	Deleted
19.1.1	19.1.2	Reworded to include all boundaries of the rink of play in accordance with new definition C28.2
19.5		New Law 19.5 to describe re-spotting requirements.
23.3		Relocation of definition of measuring to new Definition C.21 Reworded to include Singles players
23.5		Replaced the word “whenever” with “wherever”

24.1		Reworded to include Singles players
26.3		New law to clarify that there must be no further play in a knockout competition if it is impossible to win the game given the number of ends left
27.3	A.1.4.4	Reworded to include the points awarded for games won or drawn from previously stated in Appendix A.1.4.4
29.1.4		New law to clarify the scenario where bowls have been played out of turn by each opponent
29.3.1.2		New law to clarify that a set of bowls may be changed when a game is moved between a vegetation surface and a synthetic or indoor surface on the same day
33	32	Law 32 renumbered to Law 33
32	33	Renumbered to Law 32 and included the words “and substitutes” in title
37.1		Reworded to include Singles players, opponents and players in various locations throughout the law
37.1.3		New law to introduce penalty for deliberately displacing or stopping a bowl in its original course
37.1.5.3		New law to introduce penalty for deliberately lifting a bowl at rest to allow their own team’s bowl in original course to pass
38.5		Titles of sub clauses added for consistency
39.2.2.2		Reworded to clarify in which ends one fourth of total shots scored are deducted.
42.1.2.3		Reworded to include other type of markers
42.2.1		New law to add the duty of checking the mat is on the centre line of the rink. All other clauses in 42.2 renumbered accordingly
43.2.1.3		Reworded to include other type of markers
43.2.3		Amended the word “mat” to “mat line”
52.1.1		Reworded to remove the specific materials and products that bowls can be made from. Also clarified the incorporation of colour in bowls.
52.1.8.4		Reworded to include Singles players
52.1.9	52.1.8.5	Renumbered and reworded to include singles players
	52.1.9	Relocated to Law 2.4
52.4.2		Removed the words “in a side game”
52.4.3		Reworded to include a coach
52.4.4.3		Reworded to specify player or coach
52.5.4		Reworded to include the Controlling Body

53		Updated World Bowls Stamp
54.9		New law to allow MNAs to approve measuring equipment
55.2.3		Replaced the word “decided” with “agreed”
55.2.8		Removed the words “indoor play” as outdoor facilities may have lighting
55.3.4		Removed the words “indoor play” as outdoor facilities may have lighting
56.5.1		Reworded to refer to Law 19.1 for definitions of a dead jack and to clarify re-spotting requirements
57.1.1.19		New law to allow inclusion of measuring equipment in Domestic Regulations
A.1.3.11		New appendix to include methods for drawing rinks
A.1.4.4		Relocated wording associated with awarding of points to Law 27.3
A.1.4.13		New appendix to deal with players leaving the green on more than one occasion
A.1.4.14		New appendix to include arrangements for dealing with the scorecard
A.1.4.20		New appendix to include arrangement for weather conditions
A.5		Clauses renumbered for consistency
A.5.1		Reworded to include Singles players
A.5.2		Reworded to include timing requirements and who should undertake the role
A.5.3		Reworded to include players
	A.5 (5)	Deleted
A.5.6	A.5 (7)	Reworded to specify the clause associated with timing
B1		Reworded to clarify the construction of greens in accordance with previous editions of the Laws of the Sport
C.1 Chart		New lines added to “Bowl displaced by a player...” to reflect new laws 37.1.3 and 37.1.5.3