



## Laws Advisory Group

### TERMS OF REFERENCE

#### Committee objective

The objective of the Laws Advisory Group (LAG) is to provide advice and guidance to the World Bowls (WB) Board with respect to all aspects of officiating.

#### Membership

- The Chair - Laws Advisory Group (Chair) will be appointed by the Board.
- The Chair and members will be appointed for a four (4) year term and can renominate for their positions.
- All members may stand for 2 terms of 4 years with the ability to serve for a maximum of 8 years.
- The position of Chair will be advertised on the WB website and will be appointed by the Board, after discussion with the CEO, from nominations received.
- The Chair must hold a current International Technical Official (ITO) Accreditation. And have experience at a minimum of two world bowls events.
- The members of the Laws Advisory Group shall be appointed by the Chair in conjunction with the CEO from the nominations received and will consist of up to eight (8) members including the Chair.
- The CEO will have an ex-officio role on this committee.
- Each appointed member must have a minimum ITO qualification and a sound knowledge of the following areas:
  - Laws of the Sport;
  - Marking and umpiring skills;
  - Principles of education and training;
  - Experience at a World Bowls controlled event.
- All positions on the committee (with the exception of the Chair) will be re-advertised bi-annually in a staggered method.
- The committee will seek to have geographic diversity in its membership at all times, with preference given to only having one member from any one country at any time.
- The committee will seek to have gender and ability diversity in its membership at all times.

#### Operating principles

- The Chair shall schedule meetings of the Laws Advisory Group as required.
- Meetings may be held in person or via teleconference.
- A quorum of half the Group's membership (fifty percent) is required for a meeting.
- When the majority of members are present the Laws Advisory Group may meet at World Bowls Championships or Commonwealth Games events.
- The Laws Advisory Group may conduct its business by e-mail or other forms of electronic communication.
- The Chair will report to the Board via the CEO on the outcomes of the work of the committee after each committee meeting or as specified or requested by the Board. Committee meetings shall be minuted and circulated to the members.

#### Responsibilities

- Communication
  - Maintain strong communication lines with Member National Authorities with respect to all areas of officiating

- Laws of the sport
  - Review the Laws of the Sport of Bowls – Crystal Mark
  - Provide clarification on the Laws of the Sport of Bowls – Crystal Mark
- Resources
  - Develop appropriate resources for accredited umpires at all levels (club, national and international)
- Promotion of officials
  - Work with the MNAs and national umpiring committees to promote the role and respect for umpires.
- The Advisory Group is responsible for the following activities:
  - Make recommendations to the Board regarding alterations, deletions or additions to the Laws of the Sport - Crystal Mark Edition with the next review to be carried as agreed with the Board.
  - Provide interpretations to the Board on the Laws of the Sport.
  - Foster such educational and other work as may be deemed advisable in order to develop and maintain amongst all bowlers a high standard of knowledge and appreciation of the Laws of the Sport.
  - Facilitate and conduct ITO Accreditation and Re-accreditation session when and where required.
  - Conduct working assessments of ITOs at major events such as World Championships and Commonwealth Games.
- Advisory Group members may be co-opted to be part of a Judicial panel appointed by the Board to conduct hearings on appeals, disputes or misconduct proceedings.
- Provide advice and have input on the appointment of the Technical Delegate and Chief Technical Officer positions for major events i.e. World Championships and Commonwealth games.

In addition, the Laws Advisory Group shall examine any other matters referred to it by the Board or management.

### **Authority**

The Laws Advisory Group is charged to make recommendations on policy and the Laws of the Sport to the Board of World Bowls.

### **Review Date**

January 2025

### **Related Policies/Documents**

- Laws of the Sport of Bowls: Crystal Mark
- Position description: Chair – Laws Advisory Group

**Updated April 2023**