



World Bowls Code of Conduct



1. DEFINITIONS

1.1. For purpose of this Regulation:

“Articles”, “Bulletin”, “Event”, “Game”, “Laws of the Sport”, “Memorandum”, “Official”, “Players” and “Statutes” have the meanings ascribed to them in the Regulations.

“Regulations” means any regulations of World Bowls, in force from time to time.

1.2. For the avoidance of any doubt, this Regulation is subject to the Statutes.

2. PURPOSE:

2.1. The purposes of this Regulation are:

2.1.1. To ensure and maintain orderly and fair administration and conduct for Events, and to protect the Players’ & Officials’ rights and the respective rights of World Bowls, Event organisers, host venues, sponsors, and the public.

2.1.2. To ensure that all Players competing in an Event are aware of the standard of conduct expected of them and the consequences of breaching that standard.

2.1.3. To uphold the good name of World Bowls and the integrity of the sport of Bowls world-wide.

2.2. This Regulation applies to all Players and Officials.

2.3. This Regulation shall commence on the date it is signed.

3. PLAYERS OBLIGATIONS AT ALL TIMES:

3.1. **Sportsmanship:** Players must conduct themselves in a proper manner, including maintaining a high standard of personal conduct, so as not to bring themselves, World Bowls or the Game of Bowls into disrepute. This will necessarily include:

3.1.1. Best efforts: always playing to the best of their ability and to perform as part of a team (if required).

- 3.1.2. Respect: maintaining an attitude of respect and politeness towards their opponents and Officials.
 - 3.1.3. Integrity: refraining from any conduct which might reflect on the integrity of an Event, World Bowls, or the Game of Bowls generally.
 - 3.1.4. Discrimination: refraining from any discriminatory practices (or making any discriminatory statements) based on age, sex, race, religion, ethnic background, or special ability/disability.
- 3.2. **Laws:** Players must accept any ruling given by an Event Official during an Event (subject to any right of appeal given by the Laws of the Sport) and strictly comply with:
- 3.2.1. the Regulations; and
 - 3.2.2. the Laws of the Sport.
 - 3.2.3. For the avoidance of any doubt, any failure by any Player or Official to give a written acknowledgement of this regulation as required by World Bowls shall of itself constitute an offence under these Regulations.
- 3.3. **Media:** Players are entitled to make public comments or communicate with the media (including web-based social media e.g. Facebook, Twitter) in relation to their personal performance in an Event provided that Players **do not** make or endorse any public statement that has or may have a negative effect on the interests of an Event, World Bowls, other Players, opponents or the Game of Bowls.
- 3.4. **Gambling:** Players must not bet, accept, give, or in any way be involved in any inducement or bribe in relation to their own sporting performance or the performance of any Squads of which they are a member, or be involved directly or indirectly in the organisation of bets on Bowls generally.

4. PLAYERS OBLIGATIONS DURING EVENTS:

- 4.1. **Late Withdrawal:** Once the draw for an Event has been published Players may only withdraw from the Event by providing Event Officials with evidence of a bona fide injury, illness, bereavement, or other exceptional circumstance.
- 4.2. **Early departure from Event:** A Player must not make travel arrangements which would

preclude the Player from participation in scheduled matches or interfere with their commitment to attend dope-tests.

- 4.3. **Playing after withdrawal:** A Player must not compete in another Event (or any other event) after declaring themselves unavailable to compete in an Event.
- 4.4. **Default:** A Player must not default or withdraw from an Event in order to allow the Player to compete in another Event (or event) that is to occur on the same day.
- 4.5. **Best efforts:** A Player must use his/her best efforts to complete a game and must not default unless he/she is reasonably unable to do so.
- 4.6. **Slow play:** During any match that is subject to a time limit, Players must not play in a manner adjudged as being deliberate slow play in order to gain unfair advantage.
- 4.7. **Failure to complete a match:** Players must complete a match in progress unless reasonably unable to do so.
- 4.8. **Obscenities:** Players must refrain from directing any words, signs or gestures towards opponents or Officials that are understood in any language to have an obscene or offensive meaning.
- 4.9. **Oral abuse:** Players must not make statements directed at an Official, opponent, spectator or other person that implies dishonesty or is derogatory, insulting, or otherwise abusive.
- 4.10. **Physical abuse:** Players must not:
 - 4.10.1. Physically abuse an Official, opponent, spectator, or other person.
 - 4.10.2. Physically abuse playing surface, playing surface surrounds, fixtures, or equipment
 - 4.10.3. Intentionally and violently destroy or damage the playing surface, playing surface surrounds, fixtures, or equipment.
- 4.11. **Dress:** Players must present themselves for play in suitable sports clothing and must comply with all reasonable directions of Event Officials regarding dress standards while competing in Events.
- 4.12. **Appropriate conduct:** before, during, or after any match, Players must comply with goodwill formalities such as thanking Officials, shaking hands with opposing Players, etc. Players must thank their opponents and any appropriate Official before leaving the field of play.
- 4.13. **Trying to influence Technical Officials:** Players must not try to influence the decision of

Technical Officials by any gestures or orally.

4.14. **Seeking coaching:** Players must not seek coaching during play except as permitted under the Laws.

4.15. **Failure to fulfill media obligation:** Players must not

4.15.1. Fail to attend any pre-tournament media conference as required by the Event;

4.15.2. Fail to give interviews for television immediately after a match whether match has been won or lost;

4.15.3. Unless injured and physically unable to appear, fail to attend any post-match Media conference organised after conclusion of each match whether the Player was a winner or a loser, provided that this does not interfere with the preparation for the Player's next match.

4.15.4. Fail to assist with the promotion of an Event and the game in general. A Player must be willing to participate on request in at least one appropriate activity of not more than one hour's duration (such as autograph-signing, participating in "meet the public", question and answer sessions, etc.

4.16. **Violating ceremony protocol:** When participating in an Event, Players must participate in opening or closing ceremonies and wear the style of clothing requested by the organisers.

5. Breach of Regulation

5.1. Subject to any applicable disciplinary process or right of appeal given under the Laws of the Sport, any breach of Clause 3 or 4 of this Regulation shall be determined in accordance with the Regulation.

5.2. Breaches of the Regulation constitute the basis for disciplinary action against the Player or Official as detailed in the Regulations, which are available on the World Bowls website www.worldbowls.com.

I confirm that I have read and agree to the Regulation. I acknowledge that any breach by me of the Regulation, or any part of it, may result in my immediate disqualification and/or removal from an Event.

Name _____ Signature _____

Position _____ Country _____

Date _____

On behalf of World Bowls: _____

Signature _____

Date _____

* If the Player is under the age of 18 years as at the date of signing this form, the form must also be signed by the parents/guardians of the Player as set out below.

I/We are the parents/guardians of the Player. We acknowledge and agree to the conditions specified in this form on behalf of the Player.

Full Name of Parent/Guardian(s) _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian(s) _____