

PLAYING, SELECTION & COACHING POLICIES

PLAYER COPY

2021/22 SEASON

BOWLS SECTION

PLAYING RESPONSIBILITIES

SECTION:

The Section aims to provide a positive bowls environment so that the players within the Section can reach their potential and be the best they can and enjoy the experience.

The following outlines the Section's responsibilities in respect to its Pennant players:

- Aims to produce bowlers that can achieve their own personal goals in a team environment.
- Provide an atmosphere of assistance to those players who are prepared to accept the player's code of responsibilities.
- Set out a policy of selector/coach/team manager guidelines that is designed to improve player's ability to play, understand and enjoy the game of bowls.
- Endeavour to promote a team environment, where all team members have an input into the team dynamics through rink and team meetings.
- Encourage divergence of opinion, welcome an open and honest dialogue and try to create an atmosphere of personal improvement and better understanding of the game.

PLAYER:

- Work with selector/coach/team manager on achievement of Section's stated goals and be committed to team achievement.
- Be prepared to discuss personal goals with selectors/coaches/team manager.
- Be prepared to work on assessed/perceived bowling weaknesses for personal improvement and be involved in Section development programs (e.g. lectures, coaching sessions, team meetings).
- Be prepared to practice as much as possible with rink members and engage in open dialogue with fellow team/rink members.
- Engage in behaviour that will promote team spirit (e.g. endeavour to travel to away games as a four member rink, present at games at least 15 minutes prior to roll up for team meetings if arranged and communicate with rink and team members.
- Be supportive of fellow team members.

All players must aim to:

- Respect each other.
- Be successful.
- Enjoy the experience.

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We all must value:

- Loyalty - to Section and team mates.
- Honesty - in self assessment and with each other.
- Development - being open minded in accepting and receiving advice.
- Achievement – both individually and Section.
- Challenge – in being the best you can.
- Enjoyment - at all times.
- Respect - for teammates and the Section.
- Accountability/commitment - at all times.
- Friendship – both within the Section and on the green.

Team Rules:

- Confidence/body language - be positive and reinforce to team mates as and when required.
- Practice Tuesdays (Men) – to be purposeful for the individual and used to improve each player's performance and development.
- Practice Tuesdays (Ladies) – to be purposeful and under Pennant match conditions and within selected rinks where possible.
- Practice (Men - Thursdays) – to be under Pennant match conditions and within selected rinks where possible.
- All practice sessions to be enjoyable and used to improve both individual and team performance throughout the season.

Non Negotiables:

- Communicate to the Divisional selector if unable to attend practice sessions or meetings.
- Undertake set practice as determined by Section coaches and/or selector.
- Commitment to regular practice sessions.
- Always play for your Section, team and team mates.

Bowls Etiquette:

- Commend a good bowl of your opponent and of a player in your own team.
- Avoid any action which is likely to break the concentration of the player on the mat (e.g. loud talking, allowing a shadow to move across the line of delivery, movement by players standing behind the head).
- When crossing over from the mat to the head, be careful not to trespass into an adjoining rink.
- If a player has to leave the rink for any purpose, he/she should never cross in front of players on another rink, but pass without disturbing their play.
- Each member should concentrate on the game. A player, for example, who, oblivious of the game, utilises their mobile phone or carries on a lengthy discussion with a spectator, is letting down his/her team and side.
- Always have consideration for the greenkeeper – do not damage the green or make a mess around the green.
- If playing at home, remember the opposing number is your guest and join him/her in refreshment at the end of the match.
- Always play with good manners and good sportsmanship.

Code of Conduct (when representing the Section in Pennant):

- Adhere to the Section Bowls Etiquette at all times.
- Do not consume alcohol whilst playing on the green.
- Do not leave the green during a game to consume alcohol and then return to the game.

SELECTION GUIDELINES & POLICIES

RATIONALE:

Irrespective of any decisions the Committee may take for the future development of the Section, these guidelines are based on the fact that for members we will field sides in two Divisions in BNW Wednesday (men), four divisions in BNW Thursday (ladies) and five divisions in the BNW Saturday (open gender) Pennant competitions.

PHILOSOPHY:

1. It is accepted by the Selection Committees and endorsed by the Section Committee that we field teams in the BNW pennant competitions to be as competitive and successful as possible, therefore should not be regarded as only a social bowls Section.
2. It is therefore incumbent on the Selection Committees to provide the necessary atmosphere to meet this philosophy.

BOWLS SECTION AIMS & OBJECTIVES:

LONG TERM

By the end of the 2024/25 season to have won a divisional pennant in all of the pennant divisions (both men, ladies & open gender). We must be as competitive as possible and endeavour to avoid any relegations in division teams. To do so would defeat the Section's long term objectives.

SHORT TERM (2021/22 SEASON)

WEDNESDAY PENNANT - MEN

A GRADE To finish in the four and make every endeavour to win the Pennant

B GRADE To finish in the four and make every endeavour to win the Pennant.

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THURSDAY PENNANT - LADIES

- Division 1 To consolidate our position and make every endeavour to play finals.
- Division 2 To finish in the top four and make every endeavour to win the Pennant.
- Division 3 To finish in the top four and make every endeavour to win the Pennant.
- Division 4 To finish in the top four and make every endeavour to win the Pennant.

SATURDAY PENNANT – OPEN GENDER

- Premier To consolidate our position and make every endeavour to play finals.
- Division 1 To consolidate our position and make every endeavour to play finals.
- Division 2 To finish in the four and make every endeavour to win the Pennant.
- Division 3 To finish in the four and make every endeavour to win the Pennant.
- Division 5 To finish in the four and make every endeavour to win the Pennant.

OVERALL PLAYER OBJECTIVE –

To improve the performance of all players so as to place pressure on each player in all divisions to perform more consistently at their best.

SELECTION POLICIES:

GENERAL:

To select the best available players taking into consideration such matters as –

- a. Position in the team
- b. Immediate past performances
- c. Compatibility with other members of the team
- d. Any other criteria deemed appropriate for selection

SPECIFIC:

- Selected teams will be posted on the board by Thursday afternoon (men's & open gender) and by Tuesday afternoons (ladies).
- The selectors believe that, where possible, keeping a winning team/rink together is a sound selection policy.
- A player relegated from a higher division to a lower division can expect to be advised personally, as soon as possible after selection, and preferably before teams are posted on the board.
- If a player indicates to the Selectors that they only want to play in a certain Division then that player must provide documentary evidence to support their wish (i.e. medical certificate if it is health related, employer advice if it relates to employment, etc).
- When a player has a grievance with selection, the player should lodge the complaint with the Chairperson or a member of the selection committee in writing who will table the matter for discussion at the next meeting. At the discretion of the selection committee, the member may be invited to present the case in person.
- Matters discussed at selection meetings are to be treated as strictly confidential and all selectors must accept mutual responsibility for decisions of the committee.
- The selectors also believe that any player who drinks alcohol whilst playing is NOT displaying respect either to all team mates or all opponents. Such action is NOT in the best interests of the game. There is plenty of time for conviviality at the conclusion of the day's bowling. Any breach of this policy will be taken into consideration in selecting teams.
- Substitutes to other Clubs will only be made available where there is an excessive number of our own reserves not required for Pennant play.

UNAVAILABILITY:

- Selectors understand that players will be unavailable under special circumstances, but players must also understand that, on all but special occasions, they too have a moral obligation to their team mates to be available every Wednesday (men's), Thursday (ladies) and Saturday (open gender) when they put their name down at the beginning of the season to play for the Section.
- In the event a player is unavailable the player should notify selectors and list their name on the "unavailable list" on the Notice Board.
- If taking a holiday break of two weeks or longer there is no guarantee of returning to the same position held prior to taking the said break.
- If members who have made themselves unavailable for Pennant are found to be playing social bowls on Pennant days and selectors determine this is detrimental to the Section's Pennant teams, the selection committee will refer this matter to the Section Committee for appropriate action.

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PRACTICE:

- The selectors have recommended that teams endeavour to practice against other rinks in their Division in order to provide match play conditions. Ideally, these will be held each Tuesday (Ladies) /Thursday (Men) at a time that is convenient to all. This is the best time to play these games, and attendance at these will be taken into consideration in the selection process.
- If the Section is to meet its pennant objectives, it is expected that all male players will practice at least twice per week and once a week for ladies.

RINK MEETINGS:

- The selectors believe that there is much to be gained by encouraging the leads, two's, three's and skips to discuss their team's efforts with each other (remembering the need to be honest in these discussions). The selectors would welcome feedback from these meetings to enable continual improvement in selection.

SECTION COACHES:

- All members are strongly encouraged to make full use of the expertise of our Section coaches. They can arrange individual coaching sessions for members who wish to improve their skills. Please make use of these coaches as they have been trained for this purpose.
- Coaching of Section players by unqualified members is NOT allowed.
- The selectors will advise players, where necessary, to have lessons with a coach if they consider that this approach is in the best interests of the player and the Section.
- The Section has a resource which should be utilised as no player is beyond improving their game and thus assisting the efforts of the Section.

SECTION SELECTORS:

- The selectors also require practice and it would be appreciated for them to be given every consideration when they are practicing. If there are any queries regarding selection it should be put in writing through the Chairperson of Selectors to arrange a review at the next selection meeting.
- The selectors will occasionally hold official player's nights (e.g. pie nights) in order to openly discuss the application of these guidelines and to provide any other positive ideas which could lead to improved performances.
- Undertake relevant Selectors course through Bowls Tasmania.

CHAIRPERSON OF SELECTORS – Duties & Responsibilities:

- Initiate and maintain dialogue with the selection panel for the period leading up to the commencement of the ensuing season.
- Before the commencement of the season, in conjunction with the other co-opted selectors, organise pre-season pennant practice games and practice arrangements during the week.
- On commencement of the new Pennant roster facilitate the weekly communication and management of the selection panel, including the chairing of regular meetings.
- Ensure other panel members approach their tasks in a planned and professional manner, adhering to the Section Code of Conduct at all times.
- Arbitrate in circumstances where other selectors cannot agree on selection issues.
- Be accessible to Pennant players to discuss the focus and direction of selection.
- Ensure that when decisions are made during the Pennant season a player is not promoted two Divisions or demoted two Divisions all through the Section, unless where extenuating circumstances occur (e.g. eligibility for Pennant finals etc).
- Arrange official player's nights (e.g. pie nights) in order to discuss selection matters.
- Arrange a list for players to record their availability prior to the season commencing and place on the Section noticeboard and also verbally confirm player's intentions as soon as possible prior to the commencement of the coming season.
- Arrange a list for players to record their unavailability on particular days during the season and place on the Section noticeboard.
- In conjunction with selectors, ensure team managers are appointed for the season.
- Organise the occasional motivational speech to the players.

SELECTORS – Duties & Responsibilities:

- Team selection with team skips and meeting with other selectors/chairman of selectors weekly during the season.
- Communication with skips and team members as to playing performances etc and regular monthly skip meetings to be undertaken (or more regularly if appropriate).
- Arrange Divisional meeting as may be deemed necessary.
- Review with skips player's strengths/weaknesses and direct Section coaches accordingly.
- When relegating a player, explain the reasons and offer directions on improvement needed for future advancement. Advise and discuss player's situation with selector from division being relegated to and communicate with player accordingly.
- Ensure that during the Pennant season a player is not promoted two Divisions or demoted two Divisions all through the Section, unless where extenuating circumstances occur (e.g. eligibility for Pennant finals etc).
- Implement rinks practicing together.
- Implement system of identifying game weaknesses for practice during the week and game debrief by individual rinks.
- Work to promote team spirit, and assist team members with attainment of own personal goals.
- Reinforce and advise players on commitment to Section Code of Conduct.
- Ensure a Team Manager is in place on a week to week basis.
- Identify and plan promotion of player(s) from lower divisions.
- Where there is a surplus of players ensure player rotation occurs within the lower Divisions so that players not getting a game is minimised as much as possible.

TEAM/MATCH MANAGER - Duties & Responsibilities:

Wednesday & Saturday pennant – (Home Games)

- Ensure, before each game, that the skip of the duty team informs his side of their duty rink responsibilities.

Game Day:

- Check with the Chairman of Selectors and the Divisional Selector as to any changes to the teams, compile scorecards and BNW Pennant Result Form and obtain any notices to be conveyed to Section members.
- Liaise with the Section wet weather contact as to play on wet days.
- Ensure that an umpire is appointed and that the umpires gear is ready and available.
- Collect player game fees and pay into the Devonport Country Club.

When the opposition match manager arrives –

- Split and match scorecards and allocate rinks.
- Complete the filling in of rinks and names on the scorecards and the BNW Pennant Result Form.
- Toss the coin.

At the end of play –

- Collect all scorecards and complete BNW Pennant Result Form.
- Provide a copy of the completed BNW Pennant Result Form to the opposing Club's Match Manager if requested.
- Enter results in the BNW results Portal (training will be arranged).
- Put completed BNW Pennant Result Form in the Secretary's office.
- Communicate game results to Devonport Country Club staff for display within the Jack Bar and record on ladder boards located in the passageway outside the Jack Bar.
- Ensure that the clean up is done by the duty rink.

Wednesday & Saturday pennant – (Away Games)

Game Day:

- Collect player game fees and pay into the Devonport Country Club.

Seek out the opposition match manager and –

- Split and match scorecards and allocate rinks.
- Complete the filling in of rinks and names on scorecards and the BNW Pennant Result Form.
- Toss the coin.

At the end of play –

- Collect all scorecards and check completed BNW Pennant Result Form with opposition Match Manager.
- Obtain a copy of the BNW Pennant Result Form.
- After arriving at the Club, communicate game results to Devonport Country Club staff for display within the Jack Bar and record on ladder boards located in the passageway outside the Jack Bar.
- Put the copy of the completed BNW Pennant Result Form in the Secretary's office.

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Thursday pennant – (Home Games)

- Ensure each Tuesday, before Thursday's game, that the skip of the duty team informs her side of their duty rink responsibilities.

Game Day:

- Check with the Chair of Selectors and the Divisional Selector as to any changes to the teams, compile scorecards and BNW Pennant Result Form and obtain any notices to be conveyed to Section members.
- Liaise with the Section wet weather contact as to play on wet days.
- Ensure that an umpire is appointed and that the umpires gear is ready and available.
- Collect player game fees and pay into the Devonport Country Club.

When the opposition match manager arrives –

- Split and match scorecards and allocate rinks.
- Complete the filling in of rinks and names on the scorecards and the BNW Pennant Result Form.
- Toss the coin.

At the end of play –

- Collect all scorecards and complete BNW Pennant Result Form.
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- Communicate game results to Devonport Country Club staff for display within the Jack Bar and record on ladder boards located in the passageway outside the Jack Bar.
- Ensure that the clean up is done by the duty rink.

BOWLS SECTION

Thursday pennant – (Away Games)

Game Day:

- Collect player game fees and pay into the Devonport Country Club.

Seek out the opposition match manager and –

- Split and match scorecards and allocate rinks.
- Complete the filling in of rinks and names on scorecards and the BNW Pennant Result Form.
- Toss the coin.

At the end of play –

- Collect all scorecards and check completed BNW Pennant Result Form with opposition Match Manager.
- Obtain a copy of the BNW Pennant Result Form.
- After arriving at the Club, communicate game results to Devonport Country Club staff for display within the Jack Bar and record on ladder boards located in the passageway outside the Jack Bar.
- Put the copy of the completed BNW Pennant Result Form in the Secretary's office.

DUTY RINK - Responsibilities:

Before play –

- Ensure all mats and kitties for each match are on the greens for play.
- Ensure all green shade cloth is up, water is available and flags are on flag poles.
- If it has been raining wipe down/dry all seating around the greens.
- Ensure the umpires gear is out and placed in an accessible area.

After play -

- Collect all mats, kitties and flags and put away in secured storage.
- Ensure all shade cloth is down and the umpires gear has been placed within the Indoor Centre.
- Pick up all rubbish around the greens and place in rubbish bins.

COACHING POLICIES

To assist in the development of players the Section will:

- Appoint a Section coach or coaches each year.
- Ensure that Section Coaching Accreditation courses are communicated and made available to those Section players who wish to train as a coach.
- Early in each summer Pennant season form development squads for both men and ladies, specifically targeting new and aspiring players, to be given specialist coaching in the playing of the game.
- Provide training and coaching aids for players to use throughout the summer Pennant season during regular practice and targeted skills practice sessions.
- Acquire training and coaching DVD's and/or experienced bowlers as guests to be used at regular training sessions conducted during each pennant season.

COACHES – Duties & Responsibilities:

- Seek out other Section players who wish to be an accredited coach.
- Each summer Pennant season form Section development squads for new and aspiring players.
- Conduct regular coaching and training sessions for players during the summer Pennant season.
- Arrange periodic events (e.g. pie nights) for players during the summer Pennant season incorporating the delivery of further enhancement in regard to knowledge of the game, tactics used and overall team play.
- Coordinate and arrange the specialist coaching required by some Section players as identified by selectors on an ongoing basis (e.g. the Ladies to be coached in a more aggressive style of play).