

**POLICY TITLE: BETTING AND MATCH FIXING POLICY**  
**POLICY CLASS: EXTERNAL**



## **1. PHILOSOPHY OF AND BACKGROUND TO THE POLICY**

- 1.1 Bowls Australia is committed to ensuring fair play in the sport of bowls, and in particular considers that inappropriate betting on matches and the practice of match fixing are unacceptable. Bowls Australia condemns conduct on the part of any person involved in the sport of bowls which brings the sport into disrepute.
- 1.2 As the national body for the sport of bowls in Australia, and pursuant to clause 2(t) of its constitution, Bowls Australia has an object, and the power, to implement appropriate policy in relation to matters as arise from time to time as issues to be addressed in bowls. Betting and match fixing are such issues.
- 1.3 Recent legislative changes have meant it is desirable for Bowls Australia to establish and implement a policy relating to betting on the game of bowls and match fixing which governs all people associated with the game of bowls in Australia, including bowlers and officials.

## **2. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

- 2.1 In this policy the following expressions shall have the following meanings:
- “**Associate**” of a person means a bowler playing in the same game as that person.
- “**Bet**” means to stake money on the outcome of a game, generally but not necessarily for the purpose of securing a pecuniary gain.
- “**Board**” means the board of directors of Bowls Australia.
- “**Bowler**” means a financial, bowling member who has paid his state authority’s capitation fee or is otherwise accepted to play in any game.
- “**Controlling Body**” means the body having immediate control of the conditions under which a Game is played, in the order or precedence set out in the laws of bowls.
- “**Event**” means any international or national competition or tournament in the sport of bowls or such other competition or tournament as is governed by Bowls Australia.
- “**Game**” means a game of bowls played at or as part of an event.
- “**Laws of Bowls**” mean the international, national or local rules, regulations, by-laws and policies of bowls, as varied from time to time, which operate in respect of any Game in accordance with the order of precedence applying in the circumstances.
- “**Match fixing**” means offering or receiving a bribe, inducement or otherwise to cause or attempt to cause a game to be determined otherwise than on its merits.
- “**Official**” means any board or council member, member of the board, council or executive of any state authority, coach, referee, umpire, team or squad manager, official bowls tester, authorised bowl inspector, promoter, match committee member or representative or medical officer associated with a Game.
- “**State Authority**” means a member recognised under Rule 3 of the Bowls Australia constitution to conduct and administer the sport of bowls in a particular State.
- 2.2 In this policy, except as otherwise defined in **clause 2**, unless the context otherwise requires, defined terms shall have the same meaning as in the constitution of Bowls Australia or the laws of bowls. In the event of any conflict between the defined terms in the constitution and the laws of bowls, the defined terms in the constitution shall take precedence.
- 2.3 In this policy, if a word or phrase is defined, cognate words and phrases have corresponding definitions.

### **3. PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT**

#### **3.1 Prohibited conduct**

- (a) A bowler or an official shall not directly or indirectly (through an associate or otherwise), alone or in conjunction with another,
  - (i) Bet on any Game in which they or any associate or official is involved; or
  - (ii) Participate (whether by act or omission) in match fixing.

#### **3.2 Reporting and confidentiality**

- (a) A bowler or an official must report any actual, possible or attempted contravention of **clause 3.1** to the Chief Executive Officer who shall inform the president of BA or his/her nominee), but shall not otherwise report or discuss the alleged contravention except in accordance with this policy.
- (b) Bowls Australia may request any person making a report in accordance with **clause 3.2(a)** to provide particulars in writing and if so requested, the bowler or Official shall provide such written particulars within the required time frame.
- (c) Any report made in accordance with **clause 3.2(a)** shall be dealt with confidentially by Bowls Australia, unless otherwise required or permitted under this policy, the laws of bowls or at law, or unless already in the public domain.
- (d) Any statement or media release regarding any alleged contravention of this policy shall only be made following determination of the matter in accordance with this policy except as is deemed appropriate or necessary to protect or preserve the reputation and goodwill of the sport of bowls.

#### **3.3 Disciplinary procedure**

If a report of alleged betting or match fixing is made under **clause 3.2**, the matter shall be dealt with expediently in accordance with the disciplinary regulations of Bowls Australia.

### **4. INTRODUCTION OF PRINCIPLES INTO OTHER AGREEMENTS**

Bowls Australia shall take such other steps as are necessary or expedient to ensure the principles set down in this policy (as these may vary from time to time) apply in respect of any national or international bowlers, Officials and Events, including the inclusion of relevant conditions in team and squad agreements, conditions of entry and similar documentation.

### **5. CONTROLLING BODY TO ADOPT PRINCIPLES**

In furtherance of this policy, relevant controlling bodies shall use best endeavours to proceed to adopt policies, rules, by-laws or agreements (or amendments thereto) which are in accordance with and reflective of the principles set down in this Policy (as these may vary from time to time).

### **6. REVIEW OF POLICY**

Having regard to the evolving nature of the issues of betting and match fixing in sport, Bowls Australia shall review this policy at least on an annual basis to ensure its effectiveness and may review the policy at any time. In the interests of natural justice, the policy and amendments to the policy should be brought to the attention of relevant parties in such reasonable manner as Bowls Australia sees fit.

**Clause to be inserted into Player/Official agreements**

**REGULATIONS**

**“1 PROHIBITION ON BETTING AND MATCH FIXING**

**1.1 Acknowledgment regarding betting and match fixing**

The Bowler/Official acknowledges the Betting and Match Fixing Policy applies to satisfy the obligations of Bowls Australia to formulate and implement appropriate policy on such matters as arise from time to time and to foster and preserve bowls through ensuring the game of bowls does not fall into disrepute.

**1.2 Observance of laws and policy**

The Bowler/Official agrees to preserve and comply with the Betting and Matching Fixing Policy as set out in the schedule and as may be varied from time to time.”

RELATED POLICIES

- Nil

RESPONSIBLE OFFICERS

- High performance manager
- CEO

AUTHORITY

- Board of Bowls Australia

REVIEW DATE

- January 2012