



OPEN PENNANT INFORMATION



START TIMES:

- All Saturday Matches are to commence at 1:00pm with trial ends commencing at 12:45pm.
- All Sunday matches are to commence at 10:00am with trial ends commencing at 9:45am.
- Any variation to these times must have the Start time variation form completed by both competing sides and forwarded to greaternewcastle7@bowlsnsw.com.au.
- The form can be found under Open Pennant on the BNSW web page following this link <https://bowlsnsw.com.au/member-resources/match-competition-documents/>

BOWLSLINK:

- All Pennant sides for Saturday matches should be entered by 12 Noon Friday (day before).
- Once both sides are entered the home side can click the "Shuffle Button" **only the "Home" side can see the Shuffle Button"**
- **Note:** once the "Shuffle Button" has been clicked, no changes can be made to either side
- The Shuffle Button should not be clicked prior to 12 Noon, even if both sides are entered, to allow for any changes.
- Once the Shuffle button has been clicked a notification will record this at the bottom of the scoresheet page and this is the official draw for the match and cards can be prepared with rinks to be drawn at club before match.
- Cards should not be prepared until at least Friday afternoon in case of changes.
- Should a Club need to change their side after the shuffle, they will need to send an email to greaternewcastle7@bowlsnsw.com.au with the change that needs to be made.

GRADING CONDITIONS

- All Pennant selectors should make themselves aware of the Grading rules which can be found in the BNSW Conditions of Play commencing at the bottom of page 43. <https://bowlsnsw.com.au/member-resources/match-competition-documents/>

KEY GRADING POINTS

- Any player can play 2 grades below their previous season grade or in the club's next highest grade if that is more than 2 grades below, unless the player has an "N" Grading.
- Clubs that have players with an "N" Grading are limited to playing 3 of these "N" grade players in the club's next lowest Grade.
- Players are graded in the current season when they play 1 less than 50% of matches in the same grade. (4 matches in a 10 match season) or (3 matches if there is a bye creating an 8 match season)
- Please be aware if your club has 2 sides in a grade and 1 of these has a bye, any player that plays in the side with a bye, will only need 3 matches in that grade to be graded regardless of if they play 1, 2 or 3 matches in the side with a bye.
- Please read the full conditions of play regarding grading so no breaches are recorded.



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PLAYING A PLAYER SHORT

- Sides can play a player short in any or all rinks.
- The position of second is the position that is left vacant.
- The second in the “full side” plays 2 bowls in a row.
- The match is played 8 bowls against 6 bowls for all ends that a side is a player short.
- No adjustment to the score is required.
- This can be found on page 114 in the Law Book and is part of the Domestic regulations for play in Australia, which is different to the Laws of the Sport on page 55.

WET WEATHER

- If a club is postponing a match on Saturday morning before 10:30am they should update the “wet weather cancellations” on the Greater Newcastle website, which can be found here <https://greaternewcastlebowls.com.au/>
- After 10:30am clubs need to notify their opponents on any decision or when it will be made. Contact details can also be found on the website under “wet weather cancellations”
- Should a match commence and be interrupted by weather the host club can wait up to one hour before deciding on continuing or postponing the match.
- If a match is not completed, no scores should be added to bowlslink until the match is completed.
- Any Saturday washed out matches will be played on Sunday (8 days later) unless there is another event scheduled. (Sunday March 2 and 16 have a representative fixture, Sunday March 30 and April 6 State Championships) any club that has a player involved in these can apply for a deferment in the Grade that player was in. There is also March 23, April 13, April 26, May 10, 17 and 18 listed as spare dates for section or final matches if required.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

- Just a reminder that any club that has a player competing at the State Championships may request a deferment for the Grade that the player will be playing. This includes the day before and after the event for travel.
- Clubs that know they will be affected by this should be contacting the opposition to arrange matches as early as possible.
- Rounds 8 March 29 and 9 April 5, are the Saturday Pennant matches that fall during State Championships and you can view who this involves here: <https://results.bowlslink.com.au/event/79ca61b1-42e7-47f3-86cc-e8ccffc843c1>

FINAL SERIES ELIGIBILITY

- Players graded in the current season in that grade or lower.
- Players not graded in the current season but has a previous season grade in that grade or lower.

ENJOY YOUR PENNANT SEASON AND REMEMBER,

IF IN DOUBT, ASK!!!