



2026 JUNIOR BPL - CONDITIONS OF PLAY (CoP)

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Controlling body:	Junior BPL Challenge Committee.
Event:	2026 JUNIOR BPL Qualifiers
Dates:	Qualifying Rounds: Dates to be determined by hosting franchise. Closing date for finals teams to be submitted is Friday 23 rd January 2026. National Finals: played in week beginning Monday 16 th February 2026.
Venues:	Qualifying Rounds – Venues to be determined by franchises. National Finals – Moama Bowling Club, NSW

1. ENTRY CONDITIONS

1.1. Affiliation

All players must be an affiliated bowler with a State or Territory Association that is affiliated to Bowls Australia as defined in the Bowls Australia Constitution or affiliated to an international body that is a member of World Bowls.

- 1.1.1 All participating players must be a registered financial junior bowling member. Teams may consist of bowlers from different clubs, States or Territories.
- 1.1.2 Players can register to participate at any of the qualifiers or trials organised by current BPL franchises.
- 1.1.3 Players can register to play at any qualifying or trial event, but once selected or qualified for BPL Franchise Finals, may not enter any further qualifying events.

1.2. Eligibility

As a condition of entry to compete in this event, all competitors must:

- 1.2.1 be 17 years of age or younger on Thursday 19th February 2026.
- 1.2.2 Not be currently under disqualification or suspension by their STA or their

national authority.

- 1.2.3 Comply with all applicable Laws of the Sport, Domestic Regulations and policies of Bowls Australia, including the Anti-Doping Code.
- 1.2.4 Players participating in the National Final matches must have trialled or played at least one match in the previous rounds and must be a registered player of the team.
- 1.2.5 Players or coaches who are currently an existing competitor in the Bowls Premier League (BPL 23) are ineligible to compete in the Junior BPL Challenge, until such time as it is announced they are no longer a member of a team. Players who are not a current competitor in the Bowls Premier League are eligible to compete in the Junior BPL Challenge until such time as they are named in a Bowls Premier League team, in which case they then become ineligible to play and their team must find a replacement.

1.3. Team Structure, Player Numbers and Substitutions

- 1.3.1 Teams will consist of three (3) players, plus one (1) substitute if they wish.
- 1.3.2 Substitutions can only be made at the conclusion of an end. Players cannot change positions during an end.
- 1.3.3 A team's players can be altered up until the completion and distribution of the draw. Any changes to teams must be communicated to the competitions coordinator and updated within the registration portal accordingly.
- 1.3.4 Each team must comprise of either 1 x female and 2 males or 1 male and 2 females. Junior BPL Challenge is an open gender competition
- 1.3.5 As this is not a Club based competition, all players within each team do not have to be affiliated with the same Club.

2 COMPETITION FORMAT

2.1. Game format

- 2.1.1 The matches will be played in a two bowl triples format. The matches will consist of two sets of five ends with a one end tie-breaker if the sets are evenly split.
- 2.1.2 To ensure quick play, there are to be no jack rolls – jacks are to be placed by team that controls the mat. Ideally, there will be two jacks for each rink of play (one jack left at each end).

First to play

- 2.1.3 First set: teams will toss a coin and the winner of the toss can choose whether their team places the mat and jack, and then delivers the first bowl or tells the opposing team to place the mat and jack, and then deliver the first bowl (the opposing player cannot refuse).

- 2.1.4 Second set: the winner of the first set shall place the mat and jack and then deliver the first bowl. If the first set is a draw, the winner of the last scoring end in that set shall place the mat and jack.
- 2.1.5 The first, and any further ends of a tie-breaker: teams should toss a coin and the winner of the toss has the options as described in 2.1.3 above.
- 2.1.6 In all ends after the first end of each set, the winner of the previous scoring end shall place the mat, advise the skip the length of jack and then deliver the first bowl. If, however, the first end of the first set is a tied end, the first to play in that end shall also play first in the second end of the first set.
- 2.1.7 Each team will have one power play each set which will double the shots for their team only for one end. Teams must nominate to use a power play before the commencement of an end for the power play to take effect – the opposing team must be informed of the intention to use a power play before placement of the mat. Both teams can choose to use their power play on the same end. If a team has not utilised their power play before the fifth end of a set, then the fifth end will automatically become that team's power play.
- 2.1.8 If the jack is killed it will be re-spotted on the two-metre mark at the end of the "T"
- 2.1.9 A skipper is allowed to be at the head while the leads and seconds deliver their bowls.
- 2.1.10 Movement to the head – Leads cannot follow their bowls.
Seconds can only follow their second bowl each end.
Skips must walk back to the mat end together; however skippers may follow either bowl

Slow play will not be tolerated with an aim to complete each match within 75 minutes.

- 2.1.11 All rounds, from Preliminary Rounds to National Finals will consist of sectional play.
- 2.1.12 Where there is a section of 3 teams, the team who won in the first round will take the bye in the second round, which may not be reflected in the published draw. This format allows the section to remain live going into the third round.
- 2.1.13 The Junior BPL Challenge Committee reserves the right to alter the Conditions of Play for the National Finals if circumstances necessitate alterations.
- 2.1.14 If a qualifying event is held, the minimum number of teams required is three (3). The maximum number for any qualifying round is sixteen (16) teams, unless the number of entries before closing looks to exceed 16. This must be discussed with the competition events team before allowing entries beyond 16.

2.2 Determination of Winners

- 2.2.1 Sectional Winners and Ladder rankings will be determined in the following order:

- 2.2.2 Firstly, by the highest number of game points (wins) scored – a win is worth three points and there cannot be any draws.
- 2.2.3 If game points are equal, the team with the highest number of sets won shall be ranked higher – one point per set won and 0.5 points for a drawn set.
- 2.2.4 If game points, and sets won are equal, the team with the highest net total shots (total shots for less total shots against) over all games in the section shall be ranked higher (shown as score difference on the ladder).
- 2.2.5 If game points and sets won, and net total shots are equal, shot percentage will be used which will divide a player/teams' total of shots for, by the total of shots against to calculate a shot percentage. The player/team with the highest shot percentage will be ranked higher.
- 2.2.6 If everything is equal, the head-to-head game will be used to separate the teams.
- 2.2.7 Three points, and the following shot allocation for a win by forfeit and/or a bye in section play will occur.
 - 2 set wins with a score of 3-0, 3-0 in each set, totalling a margin of 6 shots.

2.3 Contrived Results

- 2.3.1. The Junior BPL Challenge Committee shall have the power to investigate a game or the actions of the clubs or any players involved in a match if it suspects the assistance or collusion of any person or club have colluded to contrive the result of a match. If the Committee decides to carry out an investigation, it will conduct such inquiries as it sees fit and invite submissions about the match or conduct of players and will give any person the opportunity to be heard.
- 2.3.2. If the Junior BPL Challenge Committee finds that clubs or players have colluded to contrive the outcome of a match the Committee may in its absolute discretion do one or more of the following:
 - A) Suspend a club or player from playing in future matches;
 - B) Take any other action that it deems appropriate.

2.4 Qualification Process

- 2.4.1 Each BPL franchise hosting qualifiers must submit one (1) team to represent them at the Junior BPL Challenge at BPL#23.
- 2.4.2 The progression path for National Finals will be as follows:
 - Sectional play to determine Section Winners
 - Knockout play between Section Winners to determine qualifier from each BPL franchise.

3 PRACTICE

3.1 Trial ends / practice

- 3.1.1 There will be one (1) trial end before the commencement of any game.
- 3.1.2 Where a team has a scheduled bye, practice on an allocated rink is permissible.

4 EQUIPMENT

4.1 Stamp on bowls

- 4.1.1. For teams who qualify for the National Finals, all players' bowls must carry the World Bowls Stamp of the current or future year. Random checking of bowls may occur prior to the commencement of games. Bowls Australia's bowls testing policy is available on the Bowls Australia web site.
- 4.1.2 Players competing in Qualifying and BPL Franchise Finals don't need to carry the current or future years World Bowls Date stamp on their bowls.

5 FOOTWEAR AND ATTIRE

As per the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, footwear must adhere to the standards as denoted in the Bowls Australia web site for all Bowls Australia event participation. This policy is available on the Bowls Australia website www.bowls.com.au.

5.1 Team uniforms (preliminary rounds)

Players must wear their club uniform when competing in all matches.

6 OTHER LAWS, REGULATIONS AND POLICIES

6.1 Policies

All Bowls Australia policies will apply for the event, inclusive of the Smoking, Alcohol, Anti-Doping and Match Fixing policies. These are available from the Bowls Australia website - <https://www.bowls.com.au/about-ba/key-documents/constitution-and-policies/>

7.1 Qualifying Rounds

The winners of the Qualifying rounds from each BPL Franchise will qualify to play in the National Final at Moama Bowling Club during BPL 23.

Each team will be supplied with a full BPL uniform of their representative BPL Franchise
1 x night accommodation in Moama for each player and parent/guardian.

Hospitality at Moama Bowling Club.

7.2 National Final

The winners of the National Final will be presented with medals and a perpetual cup to be displayed at Moama Bowling Club.

8 CONTACT & STAFF

For any event enquiries, please contact the Junior BPL Committee directly through the details below.

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