

**GAUTENG OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP
GUIDE TO COMPETITORS
&
CONDITIONS OF PLAY
2022**

GAUTENG OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

GUIDE TO COMPETITORS & CONDITIONS OF PLAY

INTRODUCTION

1. This document will consist of 2 (two) parts, namely;
 - A Guide to Competitors and
 - Conditions of Play
2. This document must not be seen as cast in stone and may change under certain circumstances from year to year.
3. The 2 (two) parts of this document must be read in conjunction with one another to avoid any confusion.

GUIDE TO COMPETITORS

4. Host District & duration of the Tournament

4.1 The Tournament will be hosted by Ekurhuleni Bowls over the period 1 July 2022 to 24 July 2022.

The Tournament schedule will be as follows:

- 4.1.1 Weekend 1 – 01 July 2022 – Mixed Pairs.
02/03 July 2022 - Men's Pairs and Women's Singles.
 - 4.1.2 Weekend 2 – 08 July 2022 - Mixed Pairs playoffs.
09/10 July 2022– Men's Singles and Women's Pairs.
 - 4.1.3 Weekend 3 –16/17 July 2022 – Men's and Women's Fours and Junior Singles
 - 4.1.4 Week 4 – 18-22 July 2022 – Playoffs (Quarter-finals if necessary)
 - 4.1.5 Weekend 4 – 23/24 July 2022 – All disciplines, Quarter-finals, Semi- finals, Finals and Closing Ceremony/Prize Giving.
- 4.2 Depending on the number of entries and/or the weather conditions The Committee reserves the right to card matches on non-playing days to either complete the Round-Robin Sections, Section playoffs or playoffs, to ensure that The Tournament is completed in the time allocated.

5. Jury of Appeal

- 5.1 The Committee will appoint a Jury of Appeal, which must be approved by Gauteng Bowls, and will consist of:
 - 5.1.1 A Member of the Executive of Gauteng Bowls or a Nominee.
 - 5.1.2 A member of the Host District's Executive Committee, who is not a Member of The Committee.
 - 5.1.3 The Chairperson of the Host District's Technical Officials Standing Committee or a nominee of that Committee.
- 5.2 All decisions of the Jury of Appeal shall be final.

6. Eligibility of Players

- 6.1 A player participating in the Gauteng Open Bowls Championships Pairs, Fours and Singles events may only do so through one District and one Club. That being the players Club of "first choice" or the player's dual membership Club. Should the player choose the latter said player must supply documentary proof with the official entry form that their Club of first choice is in agreement.
- 6.2 The Bowls SA membership card, that must be available at all times, determines the Club at which the member is registered as "first choice".
- 6.3 The only discipline where an exception can be made and a player may represent more than one club is the Mixed Pairs event where a player is a Dual Member and said player, although representing their Club of first choice in the Singles, Pairs and Fours disciplines, is not representing their Club of 'first choice' in the Mixed Pairs. Said player must supply documentary proof with the official entry form that their club of 'first choice' is in agreement with such an entry.

7. Refunds

- 7.1 No refunds will be made to players or teams withdrawing from the Tournament once the draw has been done.

8. Dress and Footwear

- 8.1 All players must be dressed in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.
- 8.2 Club approved colored clothing may be worn subject to all members of a team being dressed uniformly.
- 8.3 All players shall wear heelless footwear that has either a smooth or ribbed sole (maximum depth of 2mm of the ribbed section of the sole making contact with the green – the thickness of a matchstick)
- 8.4 Crocs are not acceptable footwear.
- 8.5 Men may wear tailored shorts.

9. Advertising

Advertising on clothing in conflict with the Sponsor's business will not be allowed without the specific permission of the Tournament Committee, whose decision will be final.

10. Reporting for Play

- 10.1 Skips of the Pairs, Mixed Pairs, Fours and the participants in the Singles events shall report to the Tournament Official immediately on arrival at 08h30.
- 10.2 Declaration Forms must be completed in full and returned to the Tournament Official prior to the commencement of the first day's play.
 - 10.2.1 Christian names (no nicknames), surnames and BSA membership numbers of all players must be entered.
 - 10.2.2 A reserve for the Fours may be declared as per 10.2.1

- 10.2.3 A contact number for the team or the participant in the Singles event must be filled in.
- 10.2.4 All participants, including the declared reserve in the Fours, BSA membership cards must be available.
- 10.2.5 No reserve is permitted in the Pairs, Mixed Pairs or Singles events.
- 10.3 Participants will not be required to pay a Facility Fee as this has already been covered in the original entry fees.

11. Catering

- 11.1 To be advised

12. Format of Play

- 12.1 The Pairs will be played on a League system, with 3 bowls, in Sections of 6 (six) teams over 18 ends. The Mixed Pairs will be played on a League system, with 3 bowls, in Sections of 4 (four) teams over 18 ends. Further playoff games up to and including the Finals will also be played over 18 ends.
- 12.2 Fours will be played on a League system in Sections of 6 (six) teams over 15 ends. The 1st playoff game at the round-robin Section venues will be played over 15 ends. Further playoff games up to and including the last 16 will be played over 15 ends and thereafter over 21 ends.
- 12.3 The Singles will be played on a League system in Sections of 3 (three) players. The player having a 'bye' will be marking during that round. The first player to reach 21 shots will be declared the winner. Further playoffs will be decided on a knockout basis determined by the first player to reach 21 shots.

13. Decals

- 13.1 Clubs decals will be permitted provided each member of the team have the same decals affixed to their bowls.
- 13.2 The Tournament Committee will provide decals during the Quarter-finals, Semi-finals and Finals of the tournament.

14. Practice and Warm Up

- 14.1 Any team/player may warm up before any game, time allowing and with the approval of the Tournament Official. Warm up must be in the opposite direction of play and may not be deliberate play by using a jack or a mat.
- 14.2 Teams/players not playing for whatever reason, but due to play in the next round, may practice on a rink allocated by the Tournament Official.

15. Tossing for Opening Play

The Skips in a team game or opponents in a Singles should toss a coin to determine who starts the game.

16. Trial Ends

- 16.1 In the Singles, Pairs, Mixed Pairs and Fours, 1 (one) trial end, in each direction, may be played prior to the commencement of all games.

17. Dead Jack / Dead End

17.1 Dead Jack (Law 19):

- 17.1.1 In the all games, the end is to be replayed in a direction to be agreed by the opponents. If they cannot agree, the end must be replayed in the same direction as it was originally played. Law 20 will apply.

18. Slow Play

18.1 Slow play will not be tolerated under any circumstances and players will have to comply with these undermentioned conditions.

- 18.1.1 Singles event – A player may only visit the head after the player's third bowl has been delivered. Should a need arise for a player to visit the head after the player's second bowl has been delivered, permission may be obtained from the marker. Permission may be granted or not.

- 18.1.2 Pairs and Mixed Pairs events – Leads may not visit the head. The Skip may visit the head after the Skip's second bowl has been played.

- 18.1.3 Four's event – Leads and seconds may not visit the head.

After delivering their first bowl, Thirds may be permitted to visit the head on being invited by the Skip with the approval of the opposing Skip. After taking position at the mat, Skips may visit the head after delivery of their first bowl.

- 18.1.4 Laws of the Sport – Clause 13 (Possession of the Rink) and Clause 12 (Position of the Players) will be strictly applied.

- 18.1.5 Timings to take note of are as follows in the Section round-robin phases:

- Game 1 – start 09h00
- Game 2 – start 11h30
- Game 3 – start 14h30

19. Scoring and Score Cards

- 19.1 In the Pairs, Mixed Pairs and Fours, competitors will be furnished with a scorecard, which must be completed by filling in the names of all players. Names must correlate with the Declaration Forms completed although positions may change.

- 19.2 Skips will be responsible for the scorecards and scores must be entered on the completion of each end.

- 19.3 At the completion of each round, the finishing time must be recorded, the scorecard signed by both Skips, who will insert the time that play ceased, and handed to the Technical Official who after comparing the scorecard to the scoreboard will sign off the scorecard and hand it to the Tournament Official.

- 19.4 In the Singles event both the players and the Marker must sign the scorecard and ensure the finishing time of the game is recorded before the card is handed to the Technical Official who after comparing the scorecard to the scoreboard and signing off the card hand it to the Tournament Official.

20. Substitutes

- 20.1 Substitutes will only be permitted in the Men's and Women's Fours.
- 20.2 See Conditions of Play for the relevant information.

21. Game Stoppage

- 21.1 The Tournament Official may, after consultation with the Tournament Committee, stop play on account of darkness, weather conditions, lightning or any other valid reason.
- 21.2 On its absolute discretion the Tournament Committee may, with or without an appeal, stop a game in progress. Pending on the receipt of the approval of the Tournament Committee, the Tournament Official shall then decide whether play shall continue or be temporarily suspended.
- 21.3 Neither the Tournament Official nor the Technical official has the authority to act in regard to the cessation of play, unless following an appeal by players or an adverse reading on a lightning meter, without the sanction of the Tournament Committee.
- 21.4 In the event of inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances players shall not leave the venue until the Tournament Official has authorised them to do so.

22. Withdrawals

- 22.1 Should any team in the Pairs, Mixed Pairs and Fours or a participant in the Singles withdraw before the commencement of the Tournament, the Tournament Secretary must be advised at Headquarters immediately. See General Information.
- 22.2 In the event of a team, or participant in the Singles, withdrawal from the Championship after commencement and before the completion of the Section league play, with or without the consent of the Controlling Body, all points scored, shots for and shots against will be expunged. In the event of a team withdrawing without the consent of Controlling Body, both the players and the Club concerned may be banned from the next Tournament

23. Determination of Game and Section Winners

- 23.1 In the Pairs, Mixed Pairs and Fours Sectional play, 2(two) points shall be awarded for a win and 1(one) point for a game drawn.
- 23.2 In the event of a points tie on completion of the Sectional play, a Sectional Winner will be decided by the following sequential criteria:
 - 23.2.1 Points, Net Shots, Shot Aggregate, Winner of the game during Sectional play.
 - 23.2.2 Should equality still exist a deciding end will be played to determine the outright winner.
- 23.3 In the Singles Sectional play 2(two) points shall be awarded for a win. In the event of a points tie paragraph 23.2 will apply.

24. Discipline

- 24.1 Non-compliance with the conditions of play may result in the disqualification of a team or participant in the Singles.

- 24.2 Any team/player found guilty of a misdemeanor while participating in the Tournament may have any of the following penalties imposed by their home District and/or Gauteng Bowls Association;
- 24.2.1 A Reprimand,
- 24.2.2 Such a team/player may be denied the right to enter or participate in Gauteng Bowls and District competitions or tournaments for a period the District may deem fit.
- 24.3 Districts will be advised of any defaulters within 14(fourteen) days of the conclusion of the Tournament.

25. Programme Changes

In the event of any changes in the program, appropriate announcements will be made at all participating venues.

CONDITIONS OF PLAY

26. Fours Championship

26.1 Venue Information

The Section, Venue, Club and players are listed in the draw for the Men's and Women's Fours Championships.

26.2 Team Personnel

The personnel of any team may be altered prior to the commencement of the Tournament. No alteration or addition will be allowed after signing the declaration form and the start of the first game.

26.3 Substitutes

26.3.1 Should a team have no declared reserve and a substitute is necessary the Tournament Official will be guided by The Laws of the Sport of Bowls to obtain a ruling. The application of clause 33 read with clause 33.5 will be considered.

26.3.2 The appointment of a substitute shall be under the supervision of a Tournament Official and in accordance with clause 33.2,3,4 and 5 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, South African Edition, Third Edition.

26.4 Should there be teams that find themselves in the position that they can no longer influence the outcome/results of their Section, before playing the final round of Sectional play, the two Skips may request the Tournament Official to abandon their last game.

26.5 Playoffs

26.5.1 Section winners will play their first playoff round at the same venue as their Section League games were played.

26.5.2 Playoff games, up to and including the last 16 teams will be played over 15 ends. Quarter-finals, Semi-finals and the Final will be played over 21 ends.

26.5.3 Should any of the playoff games end in a draw on completion on the prescribed ends, an additional sudden death end or ends will be played to determine an outright

winner. Prior to the commencement of the sudden death end/s the two skips will toss a coin to determine which team starts the end/s.

- 26.5.4 Dates, times and venues for further playoff games will be published on the Ekurhuleni Bowls website and posted on the noticeboard at Headquarters.

27. Pairs and Mixed Pairs Championships

27.1 Venue Information

The Section, Venue, Club and players are listed in the draws for the Men's and Women's Pairs and the Mixed Pairs Championship.

27.2 Team Personnel

The personnel of any team may be altered prior to the commencement of the Tournament. No alteration or addition will be allowed after signing the declaration form and the start of the first game.

27.3 Substitutes

There are no substitutes in the Pairs and Mixed Pairs Championships

- 27.4 Should there be teams that find themselves in the position that they can no longer influence the outcome/results of their Section, before playing the final round of Sectional play, the two Skips may request the Tournament Official to abandon their last game.

27.5 Playoffs

- 27.5.1 Section winners will play their first playoff round at the same venue as their Section League games were played.
- 27.5.2 Playoff games, up to and including the Final will be played over 18 ends.
- 27.5.3 Should any of the playoff games end in a draw on completion on the prescribed ends, an additional sudden death end or ends will be played to determine an outright winner. Prior to the commencement of the sudden death end/s the two skips will toss a coin to determine which team starts the end/s.
- 27.5.4 Dates, times and venues for further playoff games will be published on the Gauteng Bowls website and posted on the noticeboard at Headquarters.

28. Singles Championships

28.1 Venue Information

The Section, Venue, Club and players are listed in the draws for the Men's and Women's Singles Championship.

28.2 Substitutes

At the discretion of the Tournament Committee, players may be moved to different Sections and substitutes may be allocated to Sections where withdrawals have taken place to try and prevent any byes in the Section league system.

28.3 Playoffs

- 28.3.1 The first 3(three) rounds of playoffs will take place on the Sunday immediately after the Section League System at venues to be supplied by the Tournament Committee.
- 28.3.2 Dates, times and venues for further playoff games will be published on the Gauteng Bowls as well as the Ekurhuleni websites and posted on the noticeboard at Headquarters.