



BOWLS WELLINGTON INCORPORATED

CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Introduction:

1.1. **Purpose:** The purpose of this Code is to ensure that all participants participating in an Event (Wellington Centre, Regional, or Bowls New Zealand) are aware of the standard of conduct expected of them and the consequences of breaching that standard.

1.2. **Commencement:** This Code came into force on 1st September 2018

2. Definitions: For the purposes of this Code:

- (a) **“Bowls Wellington Office Manager ”** means the Bowls Wellington Chief Executive, unless the Board decides otherwise.
- (b) **“Tournament Director”** means the director of an Event as appointed by Bowls Wellington
- (c) **“Conditions of Play”** means the playing conditions, eligibility and other rules of the tournament under which an Event is to be played, as determined by the Bowls Wellington Tournament Director in accordance with the Regulations
- (d) **“Event Officials”** means any individuals who are appointed by Bowls Wellington, a Centre or Club to positions of responsibility at an Event including, but not limited to, volunteers, employees, officers, umpires and the Tournament Director at which a Centre or Regional or National Event is being held.
- (e) **“Judicial Committee”** has the meaning given to it in the Bowls Wellington Judicial Regulation.
- (f) **“Judicial Regulation”** means the Bowls Wellington Judicial Regulation as may be amended from time to time.
- (g) **“Laws of the Sport”** means the laws for playing the Game of Bowls as approved by World Bowls (including all domestic Regulations and the Conditions of Play).
- (h) **“Misconduct”** in this Code means, but is not restricted to, situations during a Centre , Regional or National Event where a Participant:-
- Integrity – refraining from any conduct which might reflect on the integrity of a National event ,Bowls Wellington, a Club or the games of bowls generally.
 - Discrimination – refraining from any discriminatory practices (or making discriminatory statements) based on age, gender, race, religion, ethnic background or special ability/disability bowlers
- (i) **“An Event”** means a bowls event held by, or under the auspices of, or administered by, Bowls New Zealand , Bowls Wellington, (and held at a Centre or Club venue as determined). An Event shall be deemed to start at the commencement of the official opening, manager’s meeting or pre-event briefing immediately preceding the event (whichever is the earlier) and shall end at the end of the official closing, prize giving or official function for the event (whichever is the latter).
- (j) **“Participant”** means any person who participates in an Event, including but not limited to players, coaches, managers who:
- (1) are Members of Bowls Wellington; or

(2) have acknowledged in writing that they are bound by this Code.

3. Players Obligations:

3.1. **Sportsmanship:** Participants must conduct themselves in a proper manner, including maintaining a high standard of personal conduct, so as not to bring themselves, Bowls Wellington, a Club or the game of Bowls into disrepute. Accordingly, all Participants will:

- (a) **Best efforts:** always playing to the best of their ability and to perform as part of a team
- (b) **Respect:** maintaining an attitude of respect and politeness towards their opponents and Event Officials.
- (c) **Misconduct:** refraining from engaging in Misconduct.

3.2. **Laws:** Participants must accept any ruling given by an Event Official during an Event, Conditions of Play and the Laws of the Sport) and strictly comply with:
(a) the Bowls Wellington Regulations and Bowls Wellington Judicial Regulation, as may be amended from time to time); and
(b) the Laws of the Sport.

3.3. **Media:** Participants are entitled to make public statements or any other communication with the media (including via web-based social media e.g. Facebook, Twitter) in relation to their personal performance at an Event provided that Participants **do not** make, or endorse, any public statement in the media (including web-based social media) that has (or may have) a negative effect on the interests of any other Participants, Event Official(s), the Tournament Director, Bowls NZ, Bowls Wellington, a Centre, or a Club involved in an Event.

3.4. **Late Withdrawal:** Once the draw for an Event has been published players may only withdraw from the Event by providing the relevant Event Officials with evidence of a bona fide injury, illness, bereavement or other exceptional circumstance.

3.5. **Best efforts:** A Participant must always use his/her best efforts to complete a game and must not default unless he/she is reasonably unable to play or complete a game.

3.6. **Late Arrival:** A Participant must not arrive late for a game, resulting in the default of the game, without providing Event Officials with evidence of an exceptional circumstance that prevented the Participant's attendance.

3.7. **Default:** A Participant must not default or withdraw from an Event in order to allow the Participant to compete in another Event (or other event) that is to occur on the same day.

3.8. **Playing after withdrawal:** A Participant must not compete in another Event (or any other event) after declaring themselves unavailable to compete in an Event, unless otherwise agreed with Bowls Wellington

3.9. **Obscenities:** Participants must refrain from directing any words, signs or gestures towards any other Participants, Event Official(s) or the Tournament Director that are understood in any language to have an obscene or offensive meaning.

3.10. **Dress:** Participants must present themselves for play in suitable sports clothing and must comply with any Bowls Wellington Regulations and with all reasonable directions of Event Officials regarding dress standards while competing in an Event.

4. Breach of Code:

4.1. **Breach of Obligations:** If an Event Official, player, manger, coach or other person entitled to do so under the Laws of the Sport, considers that a Participant may have breached any obligation under this Code, the Event Official shall refer the matter to the Bowls Wellington or Tournament Manager who may:

- (1) dismiss the matter without a hearing if the matter is frivolous or is brought for vexatious reasons; or
- (2) refer the matter to the Judicial Committee in accordance with the Judicial Regulations and, subject to clause 5.2 below, suspend the alleged offending player from the Event with immediate effect pending the determination of the Judicial Committee .

5.2. **Right to Natural Justice:** Prior to imposing a suspension, the Tournament Director must inform the alleged offending Participant of the alleged breach of the Code and give the Participant the opportunity to provide their version of the events giving rise to the alleged breach.

Participant: _____

Date: _____

Manager: _____

Date: _____

