

MEMO

TO: Metropolitan Member Clubs

FROM: Match & Program Committee

DATE: Thursday 26 September 2019

SUBJECT: Season 2019 20 Conditions of Play

Season 2019/20 – Conditions of Play

The MBA is pleased to release the Conditions of Play for Season 2019/20. They are now available on the MBA website [here](#). Two versions are available, a standard A4 version and an A5 booklet.

The following lists the changes from season 2018/19

2.3 – Substitutes – There have been some changes to the Domestic Regulations concerning substitutes (DR 2.4). In particular, substitutes must play in the same position as the player being substituted except if it is a skip.

2.4 – Player absence - Partial forfeits have been removed from the Rules. There is a clarification of which disciplines may play one player short (to include Triples). If a player is absent (late in arriving) the start of play on that rink will be postponed for 15 minutes (previously 30 minutes). This reduction to 15 minutes also applies to the late arrival of a side (Rule 3.11).

2.6 – Opposite Gender players - The number of **opposite gender** players allowed has been reduced. The rules concerning opposite Gender player eligibility have been clarified and positions they can play have been amended.

2.9 – Player movement in last 4 Rounds - An additional restriction regarding player movement for the last four rounds of Home and Away games has been added

2.10 – Finals eligibility - An additional allowance regarding player eligibility to remain in finals play under certain circumstances has been added.

3.2 – Ends to be played - There has been a reduction to the number of ends to be played during early start Heat Policy games. Also refer to Rules 5.8.1 & 7.1.

3.15 – Player movement during play - Has been amended to follow the Laws book.

3.16 – Mid-game break - An additional statement regarding breaks during early start Heat Policy games has been added.

3.17 – Finishing time - Additional statements clarifying the length of time allowed for any rescheduled games and clarifying the finishing time of evening games have been added.

4.3 – Results - A generalised version has been used, pending more information on the new online scoring system. A separate document will be produced if extra specific details are considered necessary.

5.4 – Forfeits - Has been amended to remove reference to partial forfeits.

5.5 – Forfeits/results - Has been amended, anticipating the requirements of the new online scoring system.

5.8 – Scoring/incomplete games - Has been amended to indicate the number of ends required to “complete” an early start Heat Policy game.

5.9 – Scoring of byes - Points/shots allocated to byes have been amended.

6.4 – Lightning - A definite time before play re commences has been added.

7.1 – Early start games - An additional statement has been added regarding playing a reduced number of ends.

7.5 – Has been significantly altered to include Tuesday catch-up games where matches are cancelled or not completed.

7.7 – Player withdrawal (Hot weather) - Has been re-written to clarify the options available if a player withdraws due to extreme hot weather.

8.1 – Replays/Minor Rounds - Some text has been re written, incorporating changes to other Rules (mostly relating to Tuesday replays for the Thursday competition).

13.1 – Artificial devices – has been re written to refer to Bowls Australia policies.

14.6, 14.7, 14.13 – These Rules have been re written to include Bowls Australia/ Bowls South Australia and Metropolitan Bowls Association policies regarding instantaneous penalties and damage to greens.

System changes – The Bowls player registration and competition modules have moved from the Sports TG system used last season to BowlsLink, a system developed specifically for bowls. This will mean that the procedures for entering players’ names and results etc. have changed. The Conditions of Play have not yet been altered to reflect these changes. Separate instructions will be sent to Clubs later.

Jeff Allen

On behalf of the Match & Program Committee