



Bowls Canada Boulingrin 2026 Conditions of Play
Canadian Lawn Bowling Championships: Para-Bowls Championships

Controlling Body: Bowls Canada Boulingrin (BCB)

Event: 2025 Canadian National Championships: Para-bowls

Venue: Brampton Lawn Bowling Club

Dates: August 4-9, 2026

Entry Conditions

1. Entries for this event shall be open. The cost for each entry will be \$130 per participant; there will be no entry fee for support personnel (directors, coaches, etc.).
 - a. The B1-B8 classifications recognized by IBD are found in Appendix A.
 - b. Should less than 8 participants register for any classification, BCB reserves the right to invite other eligible participants and/or combine classifications such that a meaningful competition can be held.
 - c. There will be a maximum of 16 entries for B1-B4 categories and 16 entries for B5-B8 categories.
 - i. Should more than 16 entrants register for either category, a wait-list will be created based on a first-come, first-served approach. More than 16 entrants may be allowed to participate should it be feasible to create a schedule that would allow for a meaningful competition to still take place.
 - d. An “open” category will exist for athletes who do not fall within the B1-B8 classification categories. Athletes will be required to submit a doctor’s note to prove some level of impairment. There will be a maximum of 16 “open” category participants.
2. Competitors must be in good standing with BCB, their respective Association, and an affiliated club during the year of the event.
3. All competitors must meet the residency requirements identified in the *Residency Eligibility Policy*.
4. All competitors must meet the classification requirements for the classification they are attempting to compete in, as outlined in the *Classification Chart*.
 - a. Any player should preferably compete in the classification where they are classified. However, they are allowed to play in a higher classification but should still be in the Visually Impaired (VI) or Physically Disabled (PD) group.
 - i. Example: a B1 player may compete in the B2 classification but a B2 player may **NOT** compete in the B1 classification.
 - ii. Example: a B2 player may compete in the B3 classification but may **NOT** compete in B5, B6, B7, or B8 classifications.
5. It is the bowler's responsibility to be officially classified before competing in a Canadian National Championship. The athlete must either provide a current medical classification



form on registering or if they have not been classified, be sure their name is on the schedule for classification at the event (if applicable).

Formats of Play and Trial Ends

6. All games shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, Crystal Mark Fourth Edition, 2022; BCB Domestic Regulations; BCB Canadian Championship Policies; and these Conditions of Play.
7. Each game will consist of 12 ends.
 - a. In both round robin play and knockout play there should be no further play in the tie-breaker if, at any point, it becomes impossible for one player to draw or win the tie-breaker given the number of ends left.
 - b. In all cases a tied end will count as a played end.
 - c. There will be a time limit of two hours for all matches, including trial ends.
8. In all cases a tied end will count as a played end.
9. First to play:
 - a. The opponents in Singles must toss a coin and the winner of the toss has the options described in law 5.2.2
10. The draw for round robin play will be created in accordance with the *Draw Policy*. BCB reserves the right to modify or adjust the draw, pending the number of entries.
11. All games shall be played using the “re-spotting the jack” rule per section 56.5 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls and the “one re-spot position” per section 56.5.3 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.
12. Prior to the start of a game, each player or team will be allowed two trial ends. For trial ends, players may use the same number of bowls as they would in the game. Trial ends will be included as part of the time limit for the match.
13. Any player not ready to play at their official start time for any game shall forego their right to play trial ends.
14. An official signal shall be sounded to signal the scheduled starting time for each game. No game shall be started before the official signal is given. If any player is not ready to play within 10 minutes after the official start time of their game, their team shall forfeit the game to their opponent.

Singles

15. Singles competitions will take place for each classification, provided there are a minimum of four entries for that classification. BCB reserves the right to combine genders and classifications should there be insufficient entries in any classification or gender.
 - a. Bowlers with visual impairments will not be combined with bowlers with physical disabilities if classifications need to be combined due to insufficient entry numbers.

Scoring and Tie-Breaking Procedure

16. Entrants will earn match points from each game based on three (3) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie, and zero (0) points for a loss.



17. No round robin games shall be conceded before the completion of all ends.
18. If a game is forfeited, the non-offending team will be awarded three match points and a net total of shots that is equal to the average net total of shots scored by the winners of all other games played in the same round of the same event.
19. At the end of round robin play, the top ranked entrants will advance to the playoffs as per the *Draw Policy*.
20. In the event of a tie, ties will be broken as follows:
 - a. The Tie-Breaking Procedure will be implemented by a committee composed of the Chief Scorer, Head Event Umpire and a representative of either BCB or the Host Committee.
 - b. Entrants will be ranked based on total number of match points accumulated during the round robin. If total match points are equal, the following will be used to rank the tied players:
 - i. By comparing the total match points earned by each of the tied entrants from head-to-head games between those entrants during the round robin;
 - ii. If still tied, by comparing the net total of shots (total shots for, minus total shots against) from head-to-head games between those entrants during the round robin;
 - iii. If still tied, by comparing the net total of shots (total shots for, minus total shots against) from all other games played by those entrants during the round robin;
 - iv. If still tied, by using the aggregate system (total shots for, divided by total shots against) from all games played by those entrants during the round robin
21. During medal games there must be no further play in a game if, at any point, it becomes impossible for one player to draw or win the game, given the number of ends left.

Practice

22. Competitors may practice, according to Law 3.3 and Law 4 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, during the period (between games) prior to the commencement of the trial ends - provided that time permits, and that the practice does **NOT** interfere with greens maintenance activities, or officials' preparation for the next game.
23. A player or team that has not played due to a bye shall, if possible, be allowed to practice prior to playing a game prior to the commencement of trial ends.

Coaches/Directors

24. Each team shall be entitled to accredited support personnel at this event as follows:
 - a. Only NCCP Accredited Bowls Coaches will be recognized to provide coaching during the event in accordance with the provisions of the *Coaching Policy*.
25. Each athlete in the B1, B2, B3 or B4 classifications may have their own director for the duration of the event. Directors may act in the capacity of Director only (in accordance with Law 41.4)



- a. If a player believes that a Director is providing coaching advice, this is a potential violation of Law 44 and an umpire should be called.
- b. For team events, the Director of each team will keep the score.
- c. Directors may direct either in front of, or behind the player.
 - i. Directors may stand up to a maximum distance of 5 m in front of the player.
- d. Directors may enquire of the Marker the position of the head only when they have possession of the rink.

Restrictions on the Movement of Players During Play

26. For all events, each team may visit the head a maximum of once during each end.
 - a. Bowlers with visual impairments going to the head must be accompanied by a director.
 - b. In any game where one player is physically unable to visit the head, neither player will be permitted to visit the head for the duration of that game.

Procedure for Applying Time Limits

27. Start of Play – an Official signal (bell, horn, etc.) shall be sounded to signal the scheduled starting time for each game. Any player arriving at the green more than ten minutes after the official signal has been sounded shall cause that team to forfeit such game to the opposition.
28. End of Play – At the completion of the allocated time, the appointed official will signal the end time of play by a bell, horn, etc. At this time, players will complete the current end they are playing. (The start of an end is determined by the delivery of the jack by the first player in that end).
29. Time limits will be imposed during post round robin play.

Deliberate Delay of Play

30. Players are required to play without undue delay and in a manner which does not prevent their opponents from being able to complete the requisite number of ends within the prescribed time limit. If an appeal is made by a Skip, a Singles player or a coach that their team or player is being prevented from playing all their bowls within the time decided for the game, the Umpire will warn the offending team, in the presence of the Skip, that they are deliberately delaying play. Deliberate delay of play may include a player leaving the green multiple times, delaying the delivery of a player's bowl, or the Skip acting or issuing instructions designed to delay play.
31. If, in the opinion of the Umpire, as a result of their own observation or on appeal by one of the Skips or a Singles player, the team or player has committed the same offence again, further action may be taken in consultation with the Head Event Umpire (or designate), such as the following:
 - a. If a player is leaving the green more than once, on each occasion after the first, they can leave the green only with their opponent's and the Umpire's permission.
 - b. If a player is leaving the green to smoke, this will not be permitted for the remainder of the game.
 - c. The end in progress will be regarded as completed and the opponents of the offender will be awarded as many shots as there are bowls in use for the game (for example, in the case of Fours, this would be eight shots).



- d. If, during the end which is in progress immediately before the end time of play is signalled or on completion of that end and before the start of any subsequent end, it has been determined that a team or player is being prevented from playing a further end due to the actions of their opponents, they will notify the teams that they must play one more end, even though the end time of play may have been signalled when such notification is given.
 - e. The offending team may be put on the stopwatch on completion of any end in progress. The offending team will be required to deliver all their bowls in each of the remaining ends within a time period specified by the Umpire. Timing will be undertaken by a technical official specifically allocated for that purpose.
 - f. The offending team may be put on the stopwatch from the start of their succeeding game.
32. Any stoppage of play due to time spent in discussion with the offending team or player in regards to the application of these conditions will be added to the time limit of the game.

Adherence to the Conditions of Play, Code of Conduct and Event Waiver

33. All competitors, coaches and director will be required to complete and sign the Bowls Canada Code of Conduct and event waiver. Forms must be completed online or in writing with the BCB event registration and must be submitted by **July 7, 2025**.
34. Players who violate the Code of Conduct or *Conditions of Play* may be fined \$100.00 per player. If a player continues to violate the specific Condition of Play, or any other Condition of Play, they may be deemed ineligible for participation in BCB events for three (3) years after the conclusion of the event in which the violation occurred.
35. All players must adhere to the *BCB Tobacco, Cannabis, Alcohol, Cell Phone, and Verbal Abuse Policy*.
36. Provincial Associations are responsible for ensuring that all players, Coaches, Directors and Team Managers receive copies of the current Laws of the Sport, *Conditions of Play* and all applicable national policies for the event prior to leaving their home province. Provincial Associations, or their designates, are also responsible for the department of their players, both on and off the green.

Bowls, Equipment, Footwear and Attire

37. A bowls, equipment and footwear inspection shall be staged prior to the start of the competition. Random checking of bowls, equipment and footwear may occur prior to the commencement of games.
38. At the bowls inspection, players are required to present the same number of bowls as they are playing with (i.e. 4 for singles).
39. All bowls must have visible legible stamps, which comply with the Laws of the Sport and have proper provincial decals affixed. Players will receive bowls decals prior to the start of the competition and will be responsible for removing all old decals and affixing provincial decals.
40. Equipment inspection includes mobility aids, such as canes, walkers and wheelchairs, as well as bowling delivery aids.
41. Participants must abide by BCB's *Dress Code Policy*.

Substitutions



42. There will be no substitutes.

Drug Testing

43. Drug testing may take place in accordance with the Canadian Anti-Doping Program and the BCB *Anti-Doping Policy*.

Alterations to the Format and Length of Games

44. The Controlling Body reserves the right to alter the format, times of play and greens to suit local unforeseen circumstances, giving as much notice as practical.

45. Where a program is interrupted or cannot be completed due to inclement weather or local conditions, the Emergency Committee may amend the format and length of games to achieve a result or postpone the event where an outcome cannot be achieved.

- a. For situations not covered by the Conditions of Play, the Emergency Committee will be the governing body for these Championships.

Emergency Committee and Jury of Appeal

46. The Emergency Committee consists of the Head Event Umpire or designate as appointed by Head Event Umpire, and any two of the following:

- a. Official BCB technical representative or designate as appointed by BCB;
- b. Host Chairperson, Greens Chairperson or designate as appointed by Host Chairperson;
- c. Alternate as appointed by Head Event Umpire.

47. The Jury of Appeal consists of one person from each of the following groups:

- a. Head Event Umpire, Assistant Head Event Umpire, or designate as appointed by Head Event Umpire;
- b. Official BCB technical representative or designate as appointed by BCB;
- c. Host Chairperson, Greens Chairperson or designate as appointed by Host Chairperson.

Protests and Appeals

48. Protests, complaints and appeals shall be decided by the Jury of Appeal.

49. Any protests, complaints and appeals must be directed to the Head Event Umpire within a timeframe appropriate to the nature of the issue in question and must be directed no later than one (1) hour of the completion of the game in question. The initial communication may be provided orally, but a written submission must be received within 24 hours of the completion of the game, with the timeline to be determined at the discretion of the Head Event Umpire. A protest, complaint or appeal may only be made by the designated Coach/Director registered for a team or player or by an on-duty official. In the absence of a registered Coach/Director, a protest, complaint or appeal may be made by the Skip in a team game, or the player in a Singles game.

- a. In the event that the initial one-hour time limit has not been met, the alleged misconduct will not be examined.



- b. The Jury of Appeal will meet as soon as possible and reach an agreement to resolve the allegation in a timely manner. Any further action will be subject to the provisions of BCB's Discipline and Complaints Policy.

Other Laws, Regulations and Policies

50. The minimum rink width for outdoor play shall be 14 feet (4.267 metres).
51. The Head Event Umpire can make the decision to use groundsheets at any time. The HEU will consult with the Greens Chairperson before deciding where the groundsheets will be placed on the green.
52. The Head Event Umpire is responsible for implementing the *Inclement Weather Policy*.
53. Mobility aids, such as canes, walkers and wheelchairs, must conform to the standards found in the *Mobility Aid Policy*.
54. Set-up of rinks:
 - a. Discs, marked in meters, are to be placed at two meter intervals between the 25 metre mark and the farthest two-meter mark in both directions of play.
 - i. Distance markings, including a pin to indicate the minimum length of an end, may also be stenciled onto the playing surface of the rink.
 - b. The center line of each rink will be defined by a fine white string, stretched tightly over the surface of the green in a direct line between the points indicated by rink numbers.
 - c. Quadriplegic (B5) players will place the mat on the 23-meter mark. The rinks are to be clearly marked 25 meters from the edge of the green.



Appendix A: Classifications

Classes recognized by IBD for Para Bowlers

B1 No light perception in either eye up to light perception but no recognition of hand movements at any distance or any direction. (Are allowed to play as B2, B3 or B4 too)

B2 From the ability to recognize hand movements up to a visual acuity of 2/60 (Berkeley Rudimentary Test,) (Are allowed to play as B3 or B4 too)

B3 From a visual acuity of better than 2/60 up to a visual acuity of 6/60 (Berkeley Rudimentary Test,) (Are allowed to play as B4 too)

B4 A visual acuity up to a visual acuity of worse than 6/24 (Berkeley Rudimentary Test,) and/or a visual field of less than 20 degrees.

B5 Ambulant and wheelchair bowlers with restricted grip and upper body limb function, poor balance and co-ordination, unable to bowl a full length end or needing a splinting device to do so. (Are allowed to play as B6, B7 or B8)

B6 Ambulant and wheelchair bowlers with reduced balance function (loss of 5 points or more) but able to bowl a full length end. (Are allowed to play as B7 or B8 too)

B7 Ambulant and wheelchair bowlers with minor balance problems (loss of less than 5 points). (Are allowed to play as B8 too)

B8 Ambulant bowlers, who have a permanent and irreversible disability, have lost 10 points on the bench test, but have minimal noticeable impairment of function.

BCB recognized classes

In addition to the IBD Classification categories (B1-B8), BCB recognizes an additional class: OPEN

The Open category exists to provide an opportunity for bowlers who have a disability or impairment that impacts their participation in the sport, but who do not meet the criteria for formal para-bowls classification (B1–B8). This category allows for greater inclusivity by recognizing that some athletes may experience functional limitations that fall outside the established classification system yet still require accommodation to participate equitably. Athletes will be required to submit a doctor's note to prove some level of impairment.



Appendix B: Duties of the Director

- Athletes/teams competing in the B1 to B3 classifications must be accompanied by one Director per athlete. A director for athletes/teams competing in the B4 classification is optional.
- In team games, the team must determine one Director to keep the scorecard on behalf of the team and the other will record the score on the scoreboard. This will be the official scorecard and must be signed by both teams. In singles, the Marker will record the official scorecard; if a scoreboard is used, a Director may update it.
- Directors are permitted to stand up to a maximum distance of 5 meters in front of the player.
- In team games, if more than one Director is used per team, Directors may stand at either end (mat end or jack end) and may communicate with their team (both players and Directors) regardless of which end they are at.
- Directors may direct from either in front of or behind the mat.
- The director must be prepared to advise the bowler on the corrections that should be made to make his bowls more effective. Bowlers going to the head must always be accompanied by a Director.
- Directors may enquire of the Marker the position of the head only when they have possession of the rink.
- Directors may only provide information to their player; Directors are not allowed to offer strategic advice unless they are also registered as a Coach for that player/team.
- If a player believes that a Director is providing coaching advice, this is a potential violation of Law 44 and an umpire should be called.
- When the end is finished, the director escorts the players to the end of the rink, before inspecting the head. No bowler shall be in the head when the count is decided. Directors are responsible for raking in the bowls and sorting them out. Usually, the raking is done by the director whose bowler did not score on that end.
- The Director is responsible for measuring the bowls when the shot is in doubt, as well as the scoring at each end and recording of the score during the game. The responsibility of measuring may be delegated to the marker. The bowler should be advised of the score after each end.