



BOWLS
AUSTRALIA

INSTANTANEOUS PENALTIES POLICY

RELATED POLICIES:	Complaints, Disputes & Discipline Policy
RESPONSIBILITY:	Governance, Risk, Integrity and Policy Committee; National Officiating Advisory Group
AUTHORITY:	Bowls Australia Board
APPLICABLE FORMS:	Instantaneous Penalty Report Form
APPROVED:	February 2025
NEXT REVIEW DATE:	June 2025

Policy set in accordance with the Bowls Australia Constitution

1 PRINCIPLE

Bowls Australia (BA) believes in a fair and equitable competition and will always endeavour to ensure that all affiliated players participate in events across Australia in a respectful, polite and sportsmanlike manner, and always within the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

This Policy provides for Instantaneous Penalties that may be delivered during competition. Any action, or inaction, undertaken by a Controlling Body under this Policy does not prevent the behaviour being considered by BA under other policies, such as the Member Protection Policy or Competition Manipulation and Sport Gambling Policy.

2 INSTANTANEOUS PENALTIES

2.1 If an umpire, by observation or on appeal by the Controlling Body, a coach/manager, a skip or an opponent, decides that a breach of any Law or Rule has taken place, or any action by a player (where there is no penalty specified in that Law or Rule), such as:

- a) Acting in an abusive, threatening or intimidating manner;
- b) Using obscene, offensive, abusive, threatening or intimidating language;
- c) Threatening any person with physical violence or assault;
- d) Assaulting any person;
- e) Deliberate cheating;
- f) Smoking or drinking on the green or in unauthorised areas.
- g) Abuse to any official;

then

2.1.1 A first warning should be provided for minor matters.

2.1.2 If any such actions have occurred including after a warning, or the behaviour is considered serious, then the end shall be immediately regarded as completed and the opponent of the offender shall be awarded as many shots as there are bowls in use by the opponent in a singles game, or opposing team in a team game, or team in a side game.

2.2 Upon a second such offence by the same player or a similar offence by any other player playing in the same team the player and team shall be excluded from taking any further part in that game according to Laws of the Sport, Crystal Mark 4th Edition, April 2022, Revised May 2023.

2.3 Should an instantaneous penalty be applied, no replacement or substitute player will be allowed for his/her team.

2.4 In a team game the defaulting team will forfeit the game to their opponent.

- 2.5 In a side game BA Domestic Regulations 2.6 will apply.
- 2.6 A substitute/replacement player is not permitted for a singles player. BA Domestic Regulations will apply.
- 2.7 Serious breaches of behaviour may also be subject to other BA policies, such as the Member Protection Policy, or possible police intervention or action.
- 2.8 Any incident involving an instantaneous penalty requires the Umpire of the day to complete the Instantaneous Penalty report form (available from the BA website). This form must be returned to the Controlling Body and the relevant STA within seven (7) days of the incident.

END