



BOWLS ACT POLICY ON DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY A CLUB

Purpose

This policy is intended to clarify the obligations of Clubs to notify Bowls ACT when disciplinary action has been taken against a bowling member of a club affiliated with Bowls ACT. It provides for differentiation between a **Bowls Related Incident** and a non- Bowls Related Incident and stipulates the process of notification of the **Bowls Related Incident**. The policy also makes clear the constraints on a player following a disciplinary hearing.

NB: [A **Bowls Related Incident** includes, but is not limited to, an incident that occurs during the course of a game of bowls, and/or that involves behaviour by officials, coaches, volunteers, administrators, parents or spectators that is deemed to be in breach of the Bowls ACT Code of Conduct.]

1.1 A Bowls Related Incident

- (a) If a bowling member, through the due process of a disciplinary hearing conducted by a member club, is found guilty of an incident of misconduct which;
 - (i) directly relates to the game of bowls; and/or
 - (ii) occurs during the course of a Club or Association Event;
 - (iii) is deemed by the hearing to have brought the game of bowls into disrepute; and/or
 - (iv) is deemed to be in breach of the Bowls ACT Code of Conduct.

then that Bowling Member shall be deemed to have committed a **Bowling Related Incident** and shall be ineligible to play or officiate at any level of bowls at any Club affiliated with Bowls ACT for a period which shall be equal to the term of suspension imposed by the hearing up to a maximum period of one (1) year from the date of the disciplinary hearing, whichever is the earlier.

- (b) A bowling member who is under an order of suspension or expulsion for a **Bowls Related Incident** shall not be eligible to apply for or receive a club clearance or transfer to another club. A bowling member who has resigned their membership of a club because of an impending disciplinary hearing or citation for a **Bowls Related Incident** shall not be eligible to apply for or receive a club clearance or transfer to another club for a period of one (1) year from the date of the incident.

1.2 Notification of Bowls Related Incident

- (a) A "Bowls ACT Member Disciplinary Notification Form" must be completed and signed by an authorised officer of the Club imposing the disciplinary penalty and sent to the Bowls ACT Office (C/o the Executive Officer) within fourteen (14) days from the date of the disciplinary hearing, or otherwise from the date of any subsequent appeals being resolved.
- (b) Details which must be notified to the Association on the Disciplinary Notification Form are;
 - (i) Full name of the disciplined bowling member/s;
 - (ii) Date and venue of disciplinary hearing and/or appeal hearing if any;

- (iii) Confirmation that disciplinary hearing was conducted in compliance with the club Constitution and any disciplinary policy;
 - (iv) The name of club that conducted the hearing;
 - (v) Confirmation that the incident or misconduct was bowls related in accordance with this policy;
 - (v) The type of penalty eg. expulsion, suspension, restricted access etc and
 - (vi) Any other documentation deemed relevant.
- (c) The Executive Officer shall notify all member clubs within 14 days of receipt of a notice of disciplinary action by a member club.

1.3 Disciplinary Action for Non-Bowls Related Incident

- (a) If an individual is suspended or expelled by a club for an incident which is deemed by a disciplinary hearing not to be directly related to the game of bowls and/or not to bring the game of bowls into disrepute, it is at the discretion of that club as to whether the individual is permitted to play or officiate at their club during the term of suspension.
- (b) If a registered player is under a term of suspension at their declared club for a non-bowls related incident, the individual member may enter and play in any club events which are not played at their declared club. It is at the discretion of the other club as to whether the registered player is permitted to enter or play at that club.

Related Documents:

Bowls ACT Member Disciplinary Notification Form
Bowls ACT Code of Conduct