Bowls ACT Guideline

Framework for ACT Invitational Singles

Effective 1 July 2026

Contents

Framework for ACT Invitational Singles 2

1. Purpose 2

2. Scope 2

3. Annual Selection Framework 2

3.1 Direct Qualifying Invitations 2

3.2 Minimum Entry Thresholds 3

3.3 Performance Points 3

3.4 Bowls Australia Rankings 3

3.5 National-Level Achievements 3

3.6 Board Discretion – Wildcards 4

4. Annual Tournament Structure 4

4.1 Host Club 4

4.2 Field Size 4

4.3 Competition Format 4

4.4 Seeding Method 4

4.5 Finals Structure 4

5. Conditions of Play 5

5.1 General 5

5.2 Match Format 5

5.3 Match Times 5

5.4 Determining Section Standings 6

6. Transparency & Publication Requirements 6

7. Governance & Responsibilities 6

7.1 Bowls ACT 6

7.2 Host Club 6

8.3 Event Convenor 7

9. Annual Review 7

10. Effective Duration 7

11. Amendment History 7

Bowls ACT Guideline

Framework for ACT Invitational Singles

1. Purpose

This ACT Invitational Singles Guideline establishes the annual framework for selecting participants, structuring competition and ensuring transparent and consistent delivery of the ACT Invitational Singles.

It provides clarity for members, clubs, selectors and the Board, and ensures the event remains a premier showcase of singles excellence in the ACT region.

2. Scope

This policy applies to the ACT Invitational Singles conducted annually by Bowls ACT.

It governs:

- selection criteria
- field size
- competition format
- seeding methodology
- conditions of play
- finals structure
- transparency requirements
- annual review process

3. Annual Selection Framework

Bowls ACT determines the annual Invitational Singles field each year by considering the following:

- Direct qualifying invitations.
- Performance points allocated under the *Bowls ACT Guideline – Point Allocation Framework for Annual Awards* for singles and pairs over a three-year period.
- Bowls Australia rankings.
- National-level achievements.
- Board discretion - up to two wild-card invitations.

These elements are assessed together each year to ensure a fair, transparent, and performance-based Invitational field.

3.1 Direct Qualifying Invitations

Direct qualifying invitations are awarded to winners and runners-up of key ACT singles events, subject to the minimum entry thresholds. Invitations are based on the most recent completed event at the time the invitation list is submitted to the Board for approval.

The direct qualifying events are:

- ACT Invitational Singles
- ACT Singles
- ACT Senior Singles
- ACT Junior Singles
- ACT Indoor Singles Qualifier
- ACT Champion of Champions Singles

Where each qualifying position is held by a different player, priority is given according to the order of the direct qualifying events, reflecting the typical entry numbers and the recognised importance of junior development. This ordering applies where the number of direct qualifiers exceeds the sixteen available places.

3.2 Minimum Entry Thresholds

Each direct qualifying event must meet the following minimum entry thresholds for invitations to apply. These thresholds ensure invitations reflect meaningful competitive achievement and maintain event integrity.

- Winner invitations require 8 or more entries.
- Runner-up invitations require 16 or more entries.
- Junior Singles winner invitations require 8 or more entries *(Board discretion may apply if entries are fewer).*
- Junior Singles runner-up invitations require 12 or more entries *(Board discretion may apply if entries are fewer).*

3.3 Performance Points

Players may be invited to the ACT Invitational Singles based on points allocated under the *Bowls ACT Guideline – Point Allocation Framework for Annual Awards***.**

For the purposes of this Invitational Singles Framework, only points earned from ACT singles and pairs championship results within a rolling three-year window are considered.

3.4 Bowls Australia Rankings

Bowls Australia rankings at the annual cut-off date provide an objective measure of current performance and are considered in both selection and seeding.

3.5 National-Level Achievements

Consideration is given to:

- Jackaroo squad or pathway inclusion.
- Australian titles.
- Significant national performances.

3.6 Board Discretion – Wildcards

The Board may award up to two wildcard invitations annually to recognise emerging talent, visiting players from other States/Territories, or exceptional circumstances.

4. Annual Tournament Structure

4.1 Host Club

The Invitational Singles is hosted annually by the previous year's Bowls ACT Club of the Year.

4.2 Field Size

The Invitational Singles will feature 16 players each year.

4.3 Competition Format

The ACT Invitational Singles is conducted over two days:

- Sixteen players are seeded into four sections (A-D) of four players each.
- Day 1 consists of section round-robin matches, with section standings determining progression to Day 2.
- The winner and runner-up from each section advance to Day 2.
- Day 2 features the quarter-finals, semi-finals and final.

4.4 Seeding Method

Seedings are determined using a holistic assessment of all selection inputs outlined in Section 3. Bowls ACT considers direct qualifying results, performance points, Bowls Australia rankings, national-level achievements and any approved wildcard entries when assigning seeds 1 to 16.

Seeds 1 to 16 are allocated across sections to ensure competitive balance. Standard allocation model:

- Section A – 1, 8, 9, 16
- Section B – 2, 7, 10, 15
- Section C – 3, 6, 11, 14
- Section D – 4, 5, 12, 13

Bowls ACT may adjust seeding methodology where required, provided changes are published prior to the event.

4.5 Finals Structure

The finals structure provides a clear, consistent pathway each year and recognises overall rankings.

4.5.1 Quarter-Finals

Eight players will progress to the quarter-finals:

- **Section Winners (A–D)**
- **Section Runners-Up (A–D)**

Quarter finals are structured to avoid repeat matchups and ensure balanced cross-section competition:

- **Quarter-Final 1:** Winner Section A vs Runner-Up Section D
- **Quarter-Final 2:** Winner Section B vs Runner-Up Section C
- **Quarter-Final 3:** Winner Section C vs Runner-Up Section B
- **Quarter-Final 4:** Winner Section D vs Runner-Up Section A

4.5.2 Semi Finals

- **Semi-Final 1:** Winner Quarter-Final 1 vs Winner Quarter-Final 4
- **Semi-Final 2:** Winner Quarter-Final 2 vs Winner Quarter-Final 3

4.5.3 Final

- **Final:** Winners of Semi-Final 1 and Semi-Final 2
- **Equal Third:** Semi-final losers will be recorded as equal third place without the need to play off.

5. Conditions of Play

5.1 General

All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls (Crystal Mark Fourth Edition, April 2023), together with the Domestic Regulations for Australia**.**

The Controlling Body for the event shall be Bowls ACT, who reserves the right to amend the Conditions of Play if deemed necessary for the safe and fair conduct of the event.

5.2 Match Format

- All matches are played to 21 shots up.
- The jack will be re-spotted in accordance with the Laws of the Sport.
- A **2 hour 15 minute** time limit applies to all matches.

5.3 Match Times

The following match schedule applies to both Day 1 (Round-Robin) and Day 2 (Finals):

- Game 1 - 9:00 am
- Game 2 - 11:45 am
- Game 3 - 2:30 pm

In the event of inclement weather, 15 ends will constitute a match.

5.4 Determining Section Standings

Match points will be awarded during sectional play as follows:

- 2 points for a win
- 1 point for a draw
- 0 points for a loss

Section standings are determined in the following order:

- Match points
- Total shot margin (shots for minus shots against)
- Shot percentage (total shots for divided by total shots against)
- Head-to-head result

6. Transparency & Publication Requirements

Bowls ACT will publish this guideline on its website as the single, consolidated reference document for the ACT Invitational Singles. The policy will be updated only when required.

Each year, Bowls ACT will publish:

- Invitation list.
- Section seedings.
- Final results and rankings (available on BowlsLink).

7. Governance & Responsibilities

7.1 Bowls ACT

- Oversees selection, seeding, and event governance.
- Ensures compliance with Bowls Australia policies.
- Publishes all transparency documentation.
- Conducts the annual review.

7.2 Host Club

- Provides greens and facilities meeting Bowls ACT standards.
- Appoints an Event Convener.
- Ensures markers are provided for all singles matches.
- Supports consistent match delivery.

8.3 Event Convenor

- Manages scorecards, timing, and dispute resolution.
- Reports results to Bowls ACT in real time.

9. Annual Review

Bowls ACT will conduct a post-event review each year, incorporating feedback from players, selectors, conveners, and clubs. Refinements will be recommended to the Board and published as updates to this policy.

10. Effective Duration

This Guideline remains in effect until amended by the Bowls ACT Board. Updates will be published on the Bowls ACT website whenever amendments are approved and documented in the Amendment History.

11. Amendment History

Version	Date	Description	Author
1.0	7 July 2026	Initial release	Ruth Moore – Board Member, High Performance