

6th UNDER 25 NATIONAL LAWN BOWLS CHAMPIONSHIP, 2026
&
1st UNDER 18 NATIONAL LAWN BOWLS CHAMPIONSHIP, 2026
23rd to 26th October 2026

CONDITIONS OF PLAY

CONTROLLING BODY:

NATIONAL FEDERATION: BOWLING FEDERATION OF INDIA (BFI)

STATE ASSOCIATION: Bowling Association of Odisha

UNDER 25 BOYS & GIRLS:

- **Singles:** Four bowls per player, 21 shots up, in excess of 21 shots shall not count. **This will be a NATIONAL GAMES QUALIFYING EVENT.**
Total of Eight states will qualify for the 39th National Games. The top Seven states based on the event rankings and One host state of Meghalaya will count in the qualifying eight states. If Meghalaya qualifies in the top seven then the eighth rank state will be considered for qualification. Qualification would be taken separately for the Boys and Girls event.
- **Mixed Pairs:** Three bowls per player, 18 ends.

UNDER 18 BOYS & GIRLS:

- **Singles:** Four bowls per player, 21 shots up, in excess of 21 shots shall not count.
- **Mixed pairs:** Three bowls per player, 18 ends.

A time limit of **two hours** (not including trial ends) will apply to all sectional matches for all disciplines. Time limits will not apply to knockout matches (quarter finals, semi-finals and finals); however, delaying (slow) play rules will still apply.

TEAM COMPOSITION: (PER TEAM)

U25 BOYS: 2 PLAYERS, U18 BOYS: 2 PLAYERS + 1 MANAGER/COACH: TOTAL 5 (MAXIMUM)

U25 GIRLS: 2 PLAYERS, U18 GIRLS: 2 PLAYERS + 1 MANAGER/COACH: TOTAL 5 (MAXIMUM)

1 Boy and 1 Girl can compete in SINGLES in each category (U25 & U18).

The other Boy and Girl can compete in MIXED PAIRS in each category (U25 & U18).

Each player can compete in a maximum of ONE discipline.

Entered players must remain in the discipline as confirmed at the Lawn Bowls Technical Meeting. After this time, changes will only be allowed relating to the team order within each team, between rounds. This must be submitted to Competition Management at least 45 minutes before the respective round.

ENTRIES, REPLACEMENT AND SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS:

No changes to team personnel will be allowed once the Lawn Bowls Technical Meeting has been held. Any player/team that is unable to begin or complete a match shall forfeit

the game and the points for that game/or not progress through to the next round. If a game is forfeited, the non-offending player or 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 section.

NO Substitution is allowed.

ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS:

Players entered by a State Association must satisfy the age criteria till the completion of the Championship. Their Date of Birth should be after 27th October 2001 for U25 category and 27th October 2008 for U18 category.

Players entered by a State Association will require to give a residential proof by way of any document like AADHAR CARD / PASSPORT / DRIVING LICENSE / RATION CARD. Any ONE of these are compulsory to be submitted and should contain same address, to ascertain the residential proof of a player.

Proof of AGE: Players entered by a State Association will require to give a proof of age by way of BIRTH CERTIFICATE. This is compulsory to be submitted to ascertain the age proof of a player.

ACCOMMODATION: Accommodation/Food/Transportation shall be provided by the organising committee of State Bowling Association of Odisha.

ATTIRE: The Team will be allowed to play in their State Attire only.

SHOES: Proper bowling shoes or flat soled shoes are allowed.

OPENING: There shall be an opening Ceremony. All the Teams shall have to bring their own Flag for March past. After opening Ceremony there will be a photo session of each team.

BOWLS: Each Team/ Players shall have to bring their own Bowls.

ARRANGEMENT FOR PRACTICE:

See Law 13 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls. Practice will only be permitted on the competition greens prior to the first session of play. From the first session of competition onwards, practice will not be allowed on Green.

THE GREEN: The Matches will be played on Outdoor Natural Grass.

DRAW:

Teams will be divided into sections if the number of entries in any event is more than 8 otherwise Round Robin League matches will be organised. In that case there shall be no final or semi-finals separately.

In draws where there are sections, there will be cross play across sections for the knock out round. Winning semi-finalists will play off for Gold and Silver medals. Losing semi-finalists will be awarded with bronze medal. (First position - Gold, Second position - Silver and Third & Fourth position - Bronze medals).

FORMAT OF PLAY:

Each team/player shall have to play multiple matches per day.

For the Knockout stages in case of Mixed Pairs game if scores are equal after the prescribed number of ends, an extra end will be played to determine the winner.

In the case of delay/stoppage due to extreme weather, the time limit relates to the length of time allowed for match play on the green. Any time off the green will not be considered towards this time.

A horn will sound to indicate the commencement of play, and then again to indicate the end of the time limit.

Any player/team arriving after the official start time shall lose the right to play trial ends.

Any player/team arriving at the green more than 15 minutes after the official starting time shall forfeit the game and the points for that game or not progress through to the next round. If the late attendance of players is the fault of the OC, Jury of Appeal will decide.

If a game is forfeited, the non-offending player or 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 section.

If any team is disqualified completely from the competition during the sectional play phase, all of the completed match results for the disqualified team will be removed.

During sectional play, matches must be played to the completion of the required number of ends or the time limit. During knockout stages, once a winner is determined (that is, it is mathematically impossible for the opponent to win or draw the match), the match will finish regardless of the number of ends played.

Final scorecards must be checked and signed by the Skips or the Player in Singles, and the umpire in charge of that match prior to submission to the tournament office.

All signed scorecards will be taken as final. Exceptions will only be made if the players concerned can prove to the Tournament Director that a genuine error has occurred.

In each match the winner shall be awarded **3 Points, 1 point** each in case of a Tie and **0 Point** in case of a Loss in sectional round matches.

RINK ALLOCATIONS:

Rink allocations are subject to change at any time prior to the trial ends for a specific round, at the discretion of the Competition Manager.

SCORING:

- 1) The player or team with the highest number of Total points is the winner of the section/group. All other players or teams will be ranked accordingly. (Three points will be awarded for a win, One point for a draw).
- 2) If total points are equal, then the player or team with the highest number of games won will be ranked higher.
- 3) If total points and games won are equal, then the player or team with the highest

net total of shots ('shots for' minus 'shots against') will be ranked higher.

4) If games won, points, and net total of shots are all equal, then the player or team with the lowest number of 'shots against' will be ranked higher.

5) If there is still equality having applied the criteria described in points (1) to (4) above, then the player or team that won the game between the players or teams that are equal will be ranked higher.

6) If the game between the players or teams that are equal was drawn, a tie breaker of one end will be played to decide the higher rank.

PROCEDURE FOR APPLYING TIME LIMITS:

A horn will be used by the designated timekeeper to signal the official start of play. At the completion of the allocated time, the designated timekeeper will use a horn to signal the end of play. 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.

TRIAL ENDS:

One trial end in each direction will be allowed for all games in accordance with Law 18.1. In trial ends players can use bowls from same set of bowls that are registered and carry a registered World Bowls stamp of either the current year or a future year. Trial ends will commence 15 minutes before the official start time of the round. (Two bowls roll up from both directions).

ALTERATIONS TO THE FORMAT & LENGTH OF GAMES:

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

Where a match in progress is interrupted or cannot be completed due to inclement weather or local conditions, the Controlling Body may amend the format and length of games to achieve a result.

RESTRICTING MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS DURING PLAY:

Prior to the start of each end, the following players will take their position at the mat end of the green:

- Singles game: both the players
- Mixed Pairs game: the leads

After delivering their first bowl, players will only be allowed to walk up to the head under the following circumstances.

- **Singles**
 - the opponents: after delivery of their third and fourth bowls.
- **Mixed Pairs** (each player playing three bowls)
 - the leads: after delivery of their third bowl; and
 - the skips: after delivery of their second and third bowls.

In exceptional and limited circumstances, a skip can ask that a player walks up to the head, or a player to the marker in Singles, earlier than described above. If a player does not meet the terms of this law, Law 35 will apply.

DELAYING (SLOW) PLAY:

Players must play without undue delay and in a manner, which does not prevent their

opponents from being able to complete the required number of ends within the time limit decided by the Organising committee. The following conditions will apply in cases where players fail to meet this requirement:

1. If one of the opponents in Singles, one of the skips or one of the coaches makes an appeal that, due to the actions of their opponents their team or player is being prevented from playing all their bowls within the time decided for the game, the umpire will give a warning and put on observation. If it is repeated the umpire will tell the offending team or player that they are being 'put on the stopwatch' when any end in progress has been completed. This will also happen if the Organising committee appeals as a result of its own observation.
2. Once the offending team or player has been put on the stopwatch, they will be required to deliver all their bowls in each of the remaining ends within a two minute time period (Singles and Mixed Pairs games). A technical official specifically allocated for the purpose will time the ends.
3. In each end, timing will start as soon as the jack has been properly delivered and centred (if the offending team or player is the first to play in an end) or as soon as the non-offending team's or player's first bowl has come to rest (if the non-offending team or player is the first to play in an end). From then on, timing will start when each of the non-offending team's bowls has come to rest and will stop when each of the offending team's bowls has been delivered.
4. Timing will stop during any interventions by the umpire (for example, to check a short jack or a line bowl).
5. The timing official will tell the offending team or player when the time remaining in any end reaches one minute.
6. At the end of the two-minute time period (Singles and Mixed Pairs), the offending team or player will forfeit any bowls remaining to be delivered in that end. However, the non-offending team or player will deliver their remaining bowls to complete the end.
7. 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, the umpire as a result of their own observation or on appeal by one of the skips, one of the team coaches or the Organising committee, decides that a team 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.

RE-SPOTTING THE JACK:

- 1) If a jack in motion passes completely outside the boundaries of the rink of play, comes to rest in any hollow in the face of the bank, or rebounds to a distance of less than 20 metres from the mat line, the end should not be declared dead. Instead, the jack should be placed with the nearest point of the jack to the mat line at a spot on the rink which is two metres from the front ditch and on the centre line, and play should continue.
- 2) If the spot mentioned in paragraph one is partly or completely covered by a bowl, the jack should be placed as close as possible to the covered spot, in line with that spot and the corresponding spot at the opposite end of the rink, without touching a bowl.

- 3) The spots mentioned in paragraph one should be marked using chalk or some other suitable method.

LEAVING THE RINK OF PLAY:

If a player wishes to leave the rink of play, Law 51.1 will apply. However, if on more than one occasion, then on each occasion after the first they can do so only with their opponent's and the umpire's permission. The umpire's permission will be granted in consultation with the player's team manager or coach when they are present.

MINIMUM LENGTH OF END:

The international standard of minimum length of end (23 metres) shall apply.

BOWLS:

Each Team must register all sets of bowls to be used by their players prior to the start of the event, in the manner requested by the Technical Committee. Random checking of bowls may occur prior to the commencement of games. Bowls submitted for registration must be in sets of four.

Players must use the coloured bowls discs (stickers) as provided by the OC, in accordance with Law 8.1.8.

MARKING TOUCHERS:

Spray chalk or chalk will be used to mark touchers in all Singles games and is the preferred method for marking touchers in all team games.

DOPING CONTROL:

As directed by the BFI, doping control may take place in line with the NADA Anti-Doping Standard, supported by World Bowls Anti-Doping regulations.

JURY OF APPEAL:

A Jury of Appeal shall be appointed for the purpose of deciding upon any points not provided in the conditions of play and/or for dealing with any referrals or appeals from decisions made by umpires and/or the Organising committee. In the event of a referral or appeal such referrals or appeals shall be made in accordance with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls and any World Bowls Regulations. The Jury of Appeal will be formed by the Organising Committee.

In an emergency situation any three members of the Jury of Appeal may constitute a quorum.

The functions of the Jury of Appeal shall be to:

- 1) Hear and determine any allegation of misconduct properly made under the Conditions of Play, Laws of the Sport of Bowls or the World Bowls Articles of Association and Regulations.
- 2) Hear and determine any disputes.
- 3) Hear and determine any appeals.

OTHER:

All other Laws, Regulations & Policies other than stated above shall conform to the World

Bowls Articles of Association, Regulations and the Laws of the Sport of Bowls Crystal Mark Fourth Edition as approved by World Bowls.

N.B.: - Organising Committee will communicate all further information like game schedule, opening/ closing ceremony, Jury of Appeal, Team Managers meeting etc. after confirmation of teams.