

## CHAPTER 5: BOWLS SA AFFILIATION POLICY

### INTRODUCTION

1. In terms of the National Sport and Recreation Act 110 of 1998, as amended by Act 18 of 2007, Bowls South Africa (Bowls SA) is the controlling body for the sport of bowls within the Republic of South Africa. As such, Bowls SA is empowered to seek financial support from its affiliated structures in order to perform its duties for the benefit of the sport, its clubs, districts, provinces and registered players.

2. Affiliation is not linked only to competitiveness or participation in formal events. Every affiliated player benefit from, and has a responsibility to support, the infrastructure of the sport, including clubs, districts, provincial associations and the National Authority. This infrastructure provides governance, playing formats, umpiring support, coaching pathways, administrative systems and access to organised bowls at all levels.

3. Unless expressly provided otherwise in the Bowls SA Constitution or in any applicable policy approved by Bowls SA, affiliation fees paid in advance shall be deemed to be fully earned and/or committed upon payment for the purpose of sustaining the national governance, administrative and operational structures of the sport. Accordingly, no full or pro-rata refund of affiliation fees shall be payable where a member, club, district or other affiliated structure disaffiliates, resigns or otherwise ceases to be affiliated during the relevant affiliation year.

### BOWLS SA REGISTERED PLAYER

4. Every member of an affiliated bowls club (or bowls section of a country club), and players participating in Corporate (Business) shall be required to be registered as one of the following Bowls SA Member Classes (Districts and Clubs may register these members under their own classes in the relevant columns) on the Bowls SA Membership Data Base Management System (MDBMS):

| Member Class            | Definition                                                                                                      | Affiliated/<br>Not Affiliated | Affiliation<br>Fees Payable |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Full Member             | A Member that is eligible for Club (including Tabs-in), District, Provincial and National Competitions / Events | Affiliated                    | Yes                         |
| Employee (Bowls SA) - A | Employees that play Bowls and are members of an Affiliated Club                                                 | Affiliated                    | Yes                         |
| Disability Agent - A    | Disability Agents who play Bowls and are members of an Affiliated Club                                          | Affiliated                    | Yes                         |
| Specialist Support - A  | Qualified Specialist Support Personnel who play bowls                                                           | Affiliated                    | Yes                         |
| Scholar - Exempt        | All Scholars registered at a Basic Education Institution                                                        | Affiliated                    | No                          |

| <b>Member Class</b>      | <b>Definition</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>Affiliated/<br/>Not Affiliated</b> | <b>Affiliation<br/>Fees Payable</b> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 85+ Exempt               | The system will automatically change this class once the member turns 85 years old                                                                                                                                                              | Affiliated                            | No                                  |
| Honorary Member - Exempt | Only Bowls SA can appoint Bowls SA Honorary Class members                                                                                                                                                                                       | Affiliated                            | No                                  |
| International - A        | Only Bowls SA can appoint International Class members                                                                                                                                                                                           | Affiliated                            | No                                  |
| Corporate Bowler         | Business/Corporate League Players that are not permanent bowlers. Permitted to play bowls during business/corporate league promotions.                                                                                                          | Not Affiliated                        | No                                  |
| Social Non-Bowler        | A Non-Bowling Member, someone who does not play bowls at all, but is a member of the club. This is NOT a bowler who has decided to become a social member because they no longer play competitive bowls, but still want to play bowls socially. | Not Affiliated                        | No                                  |
| Employee (Bowls SA) – NA | Bowls SA employees that do NOT play Bowls - Teachers qualifying as Level A Coaches fall under this class.                                                                                                                                       | Not Affiliated                        | No                                  |
| Disability Agent – NA    | Disability Agents who do NOT play Bowls                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Not Affiliated                        | No                                  |
| Specialist Support - NA  | Qualified Specialist Support Personnel who do not play bowls                                                                                                                                                                                    | Not Affiliated                        | No                                  |

5. Bowls SA reserves the right to amend these Member Classes including the determination if the Member Class is affiliated or not affiliated and/or if such Member Classes pay Bowls SA affiliation fees or not.

## **AFFILIATION BASIS**

6. Following the resolution of the Bowls SA Council, at the 2026 AGM, the annual affiliation model shall change from a globular affiliation amount per Club, District or Province to an affiliation fee calculated per affiliated player. For the purposes of this policy, the number of affiliated players shall be determined from the Bowls SA Membership Data Base Management System (MDBMS) as at 31 December each

year. The 31 December affiliated-player count shall form the official basis on which Bowls SA calculates the affiliation amount payable, by the District, for the following affiliation year, subject to such fee per registered player and any annual adjustment as may be approved by the Bowls SA Council or Annual General Meeting, as applicable.

7. Each Club and District is responsible for ensuring that its membership records are accurate and up to date on the MDBMS before 31 December each year. Any person who is an affiliated player on the MDBMS as at 31 December shall be included in the affiliation calculation.

8. Bowls SA shall implement the following pro-rata payment system for persons registered as affiliated members on the MDBMS on/after 1 January annually:

| <b>Month Affiliated</b>        | <b>% of Affiliation Fee Payable</b> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| January, February and March    | 100                                 |
| April, May and June            | 75                                  |
| July, August and September     | 50                                  |
| October, November and December | 25                                  |

## **RIGHT OF ACCESS TO PLAYING FACILITIES PROVIDED BY CLUBS**

9. It is recognised that there are no mechanisms in the Bowls SA and/or Provincial or District Association Constitutions that provide direct control over playing facilities at clubs affiliated to District and/or Provincial Associations. Clubs shall therefore retain the sole right to determine who is granted access to their playing facilities, except where such clubs host National, Provincial or District events, in which case the organising body of the event shall have the right to determine the use of the greens for the duration of the event. Clubs retain autonomy over when, and by whom, their greens may be used.

## **RIGHTS OF ACCESS TO BOWLS SA EVENTS**

10. Only players registered as affiliated members of Bowls SA on the Bowls SA MDBMS shall be entitled to participate in Bowls SA events

## **PAYMENT PROCESS**

11. By no later than 7 January each year, Bowls SA shall issue an invoice to the District Bowls Associations based on the number of affiliated players recorded on the MDBMS as at 31 December immediately preceding the year in which payment becomes due. The invoice shall be calculated by multiplying the approved affiliation fee per affiliated player by the verified affiliated-player count applicable to each Club. A District or Club's failure to maintain accurate and up-to-date membership records on the MDBMS shall not constitute grounds for the issuing of a credit note or adjustment to the invoice, and the relevant District and/or Club shall remain liable for all affiliation fees, charges or amounts outstanding as a result thereof.

12. Districts will be invoiced on a monthly basis for those members being registered as affiliated members according to the pro-rata affiliation fees (see par 8).

13. In terms of the Bowls SA Constitution, amounts due must be paid by 1 February each year, unless otherwise agreed in writing by Bowls SA. Failure to comply may result in the imposition of interest or penalties at the discretion of the Bowls SA Executive.