



Bowls New South Wales Ltd

Smoke-Free Greens Policy

1. Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Bowls NSW Ltd Board to protect the health and sporting performance of all its members by adopting a **'Smoke-Free Greens'** Policy for all State finals of Association events and Inter-Zone Sides Championships conducted by Bowls NSW Ltd and by supporting any Club, District or Zone that also implements 'Smoke-Free' initiatives in the interest of bowling members.

Bowls NSW Ltd acknowledges and endorses the **'Tobacco Amendment Bill 2012'** which amends the **'Smoke-Free Environment Act 2000'** and encourages all NSW Clubs to ensure compliance with this legislation.

Bowls NSW Ltd acknowledges the damage that cigarette smoke can cause and the highly addictive nature of the habit.

Bowls NSW also acknowledges that councils across the State have imposed smoking bans on council owned property while children are playing sport or enjoying recreational activity and in some cases, banned smoking outright. It is also acknowledged that other State Governments have banned smoking on greens and surrounds.

Bowls NSW Ltd is reticent to take any action or enforce policies that may have a damaging effect on, or which fall within the jurisdiction of the clubs that run the sport across NSW. Therefore, this policy continues to recognise that it remains the absolute discretion of each individual club to introduce and/or enforce 'Smoke-Free Greens' at their own venues when conducting their own events.

The Bowls NSW Ltd Board encourages and supports the initiative of any District or Zone Association implementing 'Smoke-Free Greens' for any Association events or other events they conduct as the controlling body in partnership with host clubs. Bowls NSW Ltd Acknowledges that it may also be difficult to find the correct balance among the array of competing interests on this matter.

Bowls NSW Ltd acknowledges the need to create a safe environment for our bowling members, volunteers and officials, to be supportive to clubs and the need for our NSW Representative bowlers to be role models.

2. Application

Clubs, Districts and Zones

It is at the discretion of the individual clubs to implement Smoke-free policies incorporating their own facilities or greens when conducting their own events, or otherwise in partnership with a District or Zone Association when hosting Association events below State level or other events which may be conducted by the district or Zone.

'Smoke-Free Greens' for State Finals

The 'Smoke-Free Greens' Policy applies to all State finals of Association events and Inter-Zone Championships conducted by Bowls NSW Ltd and therefore applies to all players and officials at each of the following events:

- NSW State Championship finals (Men's and Women's)
- NSW State Senior Championship finals (Men's and Women's)
- NSW State Over 40's Pairs finals (Men's and Women's)
- NSW State Rookies finals
- NSW State Champion of Champions final (Men's and Women's)
- NSW Inter-Zone Sides Championship
- NSW State Pennants (Open, Men's and Women's)

Representative Players and Officials

This policy bans NSW State Representatives (including NSW Senior, Keno NSW Blues and Under 25s) from smoking while they are wearing the NSW State uniform in play on the greens. In addition, Bowls NSW Ltd bans officials and other representatives from smoking on the green or surrounds during play.

All NSW Junior Bowls Officials must adhere to a strict no smoking policy while undertaking the course of their duties.