

Bowls NSW

“Smoke-Free Greens” Policy

1. Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Bowls NSW 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, and by supporting any Club, District or Zone that also implement ‘smoke-free’ initiatives in the interest of Bowling Members.

Bowls NSW 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 acknowledge the damage that cigarette tobacco smoke can cause, and the highly addictive nature of the habit.

Bowls NSW also acknowledges that council 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 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.

Bowls NSW 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 acknowledges that it may also be difficult to find the correct balance among the array of competing interests on this matter.

Bowls NSW acknowledge 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 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, and therefore applies to all players and officials at each of the following events;

- NSW State Championships Finals
- NSW State Senior Championships Finals
- NSW State Rookies State Finals
- NSW Champion of Club Champions Finals
- NSW Club Challenge Finals (All Grades)
- NSW Interzone Sides Championship (All Rounds and Finals)
- NSW Interzone Senior Sides Championship (All Rounds and Finals)
- NSW CashBack City State Pennant Finals
- NSW City vs Country

Representative Players and Officials

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

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

Additional Information:

Review date: Two years after the date of publishing or where appropriate.

Greg Helm
CEO
August 2013