

Bowls NSW Open State Pennants



1. Introduction and Scope

All events shall be conducted in line with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls and with the Bowls NSW General Conditions of Play.

These Conditions of Play provide specific Conditions relative to Bowls NSW Open State Pennant Competition.

2. Event Name

Bowls NSW Open State Pennant

3. Eligibility

Open to **ALL** Bowls NSW Limited registered members, who have a current NSW declared club with a club membership category permitting participation in Association events.

Eligible members affiliated through member club or sub clubs, irrespective of any sub-club administering the competition for that member club can participate in Bowls NSW Open State Pennant.

4. Administration

- i. Bowls NSW Open State Pennant shall be conducted under the control of the Bowls NSW Limited State Match Committee.
- ii. The State Match Committee administers the Grade 1 competition.
- iii. The State Match Committee delegates to Zone Match Committees, to administer Grades 2 - 7 competitions, in line with these Conditions of Play, along with the General Conditions of Play.

5. Competition Grades

5.1. Number of Grades

- i. The Bowls NSW Open State Pennant competition comprises 7 grades.
- ii. Grade 1 is the 'highest' Grade of Pennant, through to Grade 7 the 'lowest'. All definitions in these Conditions of Play of higher and lower grades refer to this convention.

5.2. Multi Grade Competitions

- i. Districts/Zones are permitted to combine grades for the purposes of creating equitable competitions.
- ii. In any multi grade competition, the side(s) in the higher grade must finish the sectional rounds higher than any side in the lower grade to proceed to any playoffs.
- iii. Any such Multi-Grade competition must be approved by the State Match Committee. The Zone Pennant Submission must include the method for qualification for post-sectional play for each grade involved.

6. Sides

Each Pennant side shall comprise three (3) teams of four (4) players. A total of twelve (12) players per side.

6.1. Composite Sides

Clubs may combine to enter composite sides into any grade.

Clubs wishing to enter a composite side shall forward a written application, which shall be endorsed by the Zone and sent to State Match Committee with the Zone Pennant Submission for approval.

Such application shall detail:

- i. Names of 2 clubs forming composite side.
- ii. The playing uniform to be worn by the composite side. This may be the individual's clubs' uniform of each player, a neutral uniform, or a new approved design.
- iii. Which Club shall host allocated home matches or the number of home matches to be hosted by each club.
- iv. Which club is responsible for payment of entry fees, recipient of any winning flags etc.
- v. Player's eligibility to play in the composite side shall be determined as if they would be eligible to participate in that grade/side within their own club.

6.2. Withdrawal of Sides

- i. a side is withdrawn from a competition, after the draw is finalised, it must be the lowest side entered.
- ii. If a side is withdrawn, without a satisfactory explanation to the Zone and confirmed by State Match Committee, the penalty may include a fine not exceeding \$600 and/or refusal of entry into any subsequent competition, at the discretion of the Zone, with approval also required to be confirmed by State Match Committee.

7. Entries

Clubs are allocated grades by State Match Committee based on previous season performance. See also 7.5.

Clubs may enter as many additional sides as deemed necessary based on the number of eligible players.

Clubs may apply for the preferred grades for those additional sides however allocation will be determined by Zone, within their pennant submission, based on creating equitable competitions throughout all grades, with final approval required by State Match Committee.

7.1. Clubs with 2 or more sides in a grade

- i. Where a Club has two or more sides entered in any grade they shall be identified as No.1, No.2, No.3 or A, B, C or Red, Green or Blue etc.
- ii. The sides are considered equal within that grade and players can play in either side during sectional play (if not graded higher).
- iii. Clubs with 2 or more sides in a grade, must be drawn in separate sections, if there are multiple sections within that grade. If there is only one (1) section, those sides must be drawn to play each other in round 1 and any corresponding round.

7.2. Single Entry and/or Stand-Alone Sides

- i. Any allocation of sides will try to minimise instances of single entry and/or stand-alone sides within a competition.
- ii. A Single-Entry Side is a side which is the only entry in a grade in a District/Zone.
- iii. A Stand-Out Side is a Single-Entry side that is not participating in a multi-grade competition and is proceeding directly to post-Sectional play at Zone/State level.

- iv. Where a District or Zone has only one entry in a grade that side may be placed in a multi-grade competition, or the side may play in that grade in another District within that Zone.
- v. A Single-Entry Side cannot be a Stand-Out Side unless a written application is approved by State Match Committee.
- vi. The names of the players for the Stand-Out Side must be nominated to the District, Zone & State prior to the commencement of play in ANY Grade of Pennant in that Season.
- vii. Those players nominated are ineligible to play in any other grade except with the approval of the State Match Committee.

7.3. Entry fees

Zones may apply any reasonable entry fee to competition on a per side basis.

7.4. Elevation/Regression of Sides

7.4.1. Allocation of Grades

- i. Allocation of grades shall be based on a club's results from the previous season. The principle is that clubs retain their previously allocated grades with any variations based on performance. The principle that winners are to be elevated and last placed sides to be regressed is the basis of the Conditions of Play.
- ii. It is noted that for 2022/23 Bowls NSW State Open Pennant, clubs shall be allocated as per 2021 Bowls NSW Open Gender Pennant competition grades of Clubs. Applications for variation from this allocation shall be considered as per 7.4.4

7.4.2. Elevation of Clubs

- i. All Clubs competing in 2021 Grade 1 State Pennants Finals will be allocated as a side in 2022/23 Bowls NSW Open State Pennant Grade 1, subject to final determination of Grade 1 competition by State Match Committee.
- ii. The 2021 Grade 2 State Winner and all other Zone Grade 2 Winners will be invited to play in the NSW Grade 1 State Pennants.
- iii. Expressions of Interest will also be sent to all affiliated NSW Clubs to apply for participation into Bowls NSW State Open Pennant Grade 1 competition.
- iv. All Winners of 2021 State Open Gender Pennants, Grades 3 to 7, shall be elevated to the next highest Grade, irrespective of whether that Club has a side already entered in that higher grade.
- v. All 2021 Zone and District Open Gender Pennant Winners, Grades 3 to 7, shall be elevated to the next highest grade, irrespective of whether that Club has a side already entered in that higher grade.
- vi. Clubs winning sections within a grade of the 2021 State Open Gender Pennant district/zone competitions may be elevated as required by the need to balance numbers in each grade of competition within the Zone or District.

7.4.3. Regression of Clubs

- i. Clubs finishing last in 2021 Bowls NSW Open Gender Pennant grades 2 to 6 within a Zone or District shall be regressed to the next lowest Grade, irrespective of whether that Club has a side already entered in that lower grade.
- ii. Clubs finishing last in sections within a grade of the 2021 State Open Gender Pennant district/zone competitions may be regressed as required by the need to balance numbers in each grade of competition within the Zone or District.
- iii. Clubs may not be required to be regressed, if it allows for equitable competitions in next lowest grade.

7.4.4. Request for Elevation or Regression

. A club may submit a written request for elevation or regression of its sides based on a gain of players or loss of players. Such application shall detail the players available for the club for the season. The submission must also detail that the grades applied for are compliant with the requirements of these Conditions of Play (11, Participation).

8. Competition Format

8.1. Duration of Matches

Each match shall consist of 63 ends in total (21 ends per rink) in fours format.

8.2. Playing Dates

- i. District/Zones MUST NOT start 2022/23 Bowls NSW Open State Pennant competitions prior to 14 January 2023, and they MUST be completed no later than 31 May 2023.
- ii. Zones must detail length (number of rounds) of each grade competition and any post sectional play format within their Zone Pennant Submission.
- iii. Zones/Districts must advise on entry form the dates of play.
- iv. Zones/Districts must schedule all rounds of play on weekend dates. These dates can be re-scheduled by clubs, with mutual agreement of both participating clubs by submitting the Match Start Variation Application to the relevant controlling body.

8.3. State Finals

- i. The Bowls NSW State Open Pennant Finals are scheduled to be played 30 June to 2 July 2023.
- ii. Each Zone MUST be represented by a Side in each of Grades 2-7 at the State Pennant Finals Series.
- iii. All Bowls NSW Open State Pennant Finals for each grade will be sectional play followed by knockout finals.

8.3.1. Bowls NSW State Finals Entry Fees

Any entry fee (if applicable) will be determined by the Board of Bowls NSW Limited annually.

9. Method of Scoring.

9.1. All NSW Open Pennant Sectional &/or Round Robin matches will be:

Side Win:	7 points (Side scoring the most aggregate number of shots)
Side Tie (Draw):	3.5 points (Both sides scoring same number of aggregate shots)
Side Loss:	0 points (Side scoring the least aggregate number of shots)
Team Win:	1 point (One point for each team that wins (rink wins))
Team Tie (Draw) :	0.5 points (0.5 points for each team that has drawn match (rink draw))
Team Loss:	0 points

Total Number of Points per match: 10 points

9.2. All NSW Open Pennant Knockout matches will be:

The side scoring the most aggregate number of shots is declared the winner. If at the completion of a match, the aggregate score is equal, then all teams will play 1 extra end to determine result. If scores are still tied, the teams continue to play 1 extra end each until a winner is determined.

9.3. Byes

Where a bye occurs, there will be NO points allocated.

9.4. Forfeits

- i. A side receiving a forfeit during sectional play shall be awarded maximum points (10 points) and be credited with a margin of +15 shots.
- ii. A side forfeiting shall be awarded 0 points and be credited with a margin of -15 shots.
- iii. A side forfeiting shall notify:
 - The Zone
 - The opponent
 - The host venue
- iv. All notifications of any forfeits must be at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled start time of any match.
- v. Penalty for failure to notify all 3 above may include a fine not exceeding \$100 for any one offence and/or expulsion from club entering any other Association event for a period of up to 12 months.

10. Zone Pennant Submissions

10.1. Prior to Competition

- i. All Zone Pennant Submissions must be received by State Match Committee no later than 8 weeks prior to the scheduled date of Round 1 matches.
- ii. All Zone Pennant Submissions must be on the prescribed documents and in the prescribed format. (All Zones will receive this information from Bowls NSW Limited).
- iii. Only approved submissions will be allowed to participate in the competition.
- iv. Zones are not to release submissions until confirmation from State Match Committee.
- v. Draws may be managed to accommodate geographic considerations and to balance competitions. Submissions should detail the format of post-sectional play at all levels and include the reporting and recording mechanisms to be employed.
- vi. Any amendments to the submission (including any draws) after approval must be submitted to State Match Committee for consideration.

10.2. Conclusion of Competition

Zones must submit to State Match Committee results of all competitions, no later than 7 days after completion of competition. (All Zones will receive this information from Bowls NSW Limited).

11. Participation

11.1. Player Eligibility:

Player's eligibility to participate in Bowls NSW Open State Pennants is based on:

- i. Their grading (if any) from their previous season and then
- ii. Their grading when attained in the current season.
- iii. In exceptional cases, a variation of eligibility may be granted by the State Match Committee.
- iv. Clubs should ensure that their available players are able to be selected in their grades to be allocated, making application for elevation or regression of sides (as per 7.4.4.) if necessary.

11.1.1. A player's eligibility shall be determined as follows:

- i. A player who was graded in a side that was a State Open Pennant Winner in Grade 1 in the previous season shall be ineligible to play in a lower grade in the current season.
- ii. A player who was graded in a side that qualified for the Grade 1 State Open Pennant Finals in the previous season shall be ineligible to play in a lower Grade in the current season.

- iii. A player who was graded in a side that was a State Open Pennant Winner in Grades 3 to 7 in the previous season shall be ineligible to play in that grade or lower in the current Bowling Season.
- iv. Players who are constituted in a side that wins a State Open Pennant (i.e. players who play in the final) in Grades 3 to 7 shall be ineligible to play in that grade or lower in their next season
- v. A player who was graded in a side that was a District/Zone Pennant Winner in Grades 2 to 7 in the previous season shall be ineligible to play in a lower grade in the current season.

11.2. Players with a ‘Nominated’ Club other than a NSW club

- i. Clubs shall be restricted to a maximum of two (2) players in any match in the highest grade of NSW Pennants played by that Club who:
 - Currently have a Club in a State other than NSW as their nominated club as per the Bowls Australia Affiliation and Eligibility to Play policy and/or
 - Normally reside outside Australia and are also registered/affiliated with a body recognised by World Bowls.
- ii. Players covered under this clause must be registered with the club or written permission gained from the State Match Committee (through District/Zone) to be eligible to play.
- iii. A player who had a nominated club outside of NSW for the previous Bowling Season shall be included in this clause unless they:
 - Are registered with Bowls NSW as a member of the NSW Club as at 8 weeks **prior to the start of the** competition AND
 - Have an Interstate Clearance lodged with Bowls NSW to become an NSW player as at 1 January in the year of the competition and do not seek Interstate Clearance to another State/Territory before the completion of the State Open Pennant Finals in that year OR
 - Receive written permission from the State Match Committee to be considered an NSW based player. The player shall make written application and shall submit evidence of their case to be considered as an NSW based player.
- iv. This limitation shall apply only to the highest grade of NSW Pennant played by that club.

11.3. Players from outside NSW

- i. Players who have previously played in a State or Territory other than NSW and who do NOT have a previous season grading from NSW shall be deemed to have a grading in that club’s highest grade.
- ii. Players registered with or playing in a body recognised by another National Association who do not have a NSW Previous Season Grading shall be deemed to have a Previous Season Grading of Grade 1.
- iii. The eligibility of players may be varied on written application (through relevant District/Zone) to the State Match Committee.
- iv. Players covered under this clause must be registered with Bowls NSW and have any required clearances submitted to Bowls NSW to be eligible to play.

11.4. Clubs’ Highest Grade

- i. A Maximum of three (3) players who have changed their declared club from the previous season shall be eligible to play 2 or more grades below their previous season grading in a Club’s Highest Grade.
- ii. A Maximum of six (6) players are eligible to play 2 or more grades below their previous season grading in a Club’s Highest Grade. (including, if applicable, three players who have changed declared club from previous season in clause 11.4.i above).

- iii. A Club requiring more than the number of players permitted under this clause shall make application for elevation as per 7.4.4
- iv. The six players are for the whole of the season and is irrespective of whether the club has two sides in any of those grades.

11.5. Variation of Eligibility

- i. Any variation to a player's eligibility must have the written approval of the State Match Committee. Such application must be made by completing the Player Regrade Application form, which must be sent to zone for endorsement, prior to being sent to State Match Committee for approval.
- ii. Clubs must ensure that their grades proposed to be allocated (before commencement of the season) allow for selection of their players in grades in which they are eligible to play in accordance with these Conditions of Play. An application for elevation should be submitted as per 7.4.4. if necessary.
- iii. Applications for variation of players' eligibility may not be granted for clubs with an excess of higher graded players and may result in the club being elevated to appropriate grade.
- iv. Any player granted a variation of eligibility (regrade) will be counted as 1 of 6 players allowed to play in any grade that is 2 or more grades below their Previous Season Grade

11.6. Player Grading

A player is eligible to play no lower than one (1) Grade below their grading for their previous Pennant Season, except as otherwise provided for in this clause.

11.6.1. Non-Consecutive Grades

- i. Where a Club does not have consecutive grades, a maximum of six (6) players shall be eligible to play more than one grade below their previous season grade in the next lowest grade contested by that Club.
- ii. The six players are for the whole of the season and is irrespective of whether the club has two sides in any of those grades.
- iii. A Club having consecutive grades as a result of regression shall be entitled to apply the conditions of 11.3 to those consecutive grades.

11.6.2. Consecutive Grades

- i. A maximum of six (6) players in each grade are eligible to play no more than two (2) grades below their previous season grading. (The maximum of six players is for the whole of the season and is irrespective of whether the club has two sides in any of those grades).

11.7. Recording of Grading

Player's grading shall be recorded as being of Grade 1 to 7 or being ungraded (0 or no grading recorded). The following notations also apply.

- i. ***N gradings (e.g. N1):*** player is a previous season winner and may play no lower than their previous season grading.
- ii. ***R gradings (e.g. R5) :*** player has been granted a variation of eligibility for the current season and may play no lower than the grade approved by the State Match Committee.
- iii. ***P gradings –(e.g. P1) :*** Player is a non-NSW based player and may play no lower than the grading allocated without approval from the State Match Committee.

11.8. Player Graded in the Current Season

- i. Once a player has become graded in the current season, they are ineligible to play in a grade lower than their current season grading. (The player may not play in a lower grade from the date on which they became graded.)

- ii. A player’s grading in the current season shall be determined by their matches played in the current season.
- iii. A player who has played a minimum of the threshold number of matches (as below) shall be graded in that grade for the current season. (Byes do not count as a match played):

Number of Sectional Matches Scheduled (Byes do NOT count as a match played)	Threshold Number of Matches
11 or more	6 matches
9 or 10	5 matches
7 or 8 (plus 1 or more byes)	4 matches
7 or 8	4 matches
5 or 6 (plus 1 or more byes)	3 matches
5 or 6	3 matches
3 or 4 (plus 1 or more byes)	2 matches
3 or 4	2 matches
2 (plus 1 more byes)	1 match
2	1 match

- iv. 11.8.4. If a Club has multiple sides in a Grade, a player is graded once they play the minimum threshold number of matches applicable to any side in that Grade (i.e. the lowest number of matches).
- v. 11.8.5. Once a player has become graded in the current season they may not play in a lower grade.
- vi. 11.8.6. A player’s grading will change to a higher grade if they play the number of threshold matches in a higher grade.
- vii. If a Club has multiple sides in a Grade, a player is graded once they play the minimum threshold number of matches applicable to any side in that Grade (i.e. the lowest number of matches).
- viii. Once a player has become graded in the current season they may not play in a lower grade.
- ix. A player’s grading will change to a higher grade if they play the number of threshold matches in a higher grade.

11.9. Graded at End of Sectional Play

- i. A player who has not been graded at the end of sectional play but has played a total (across all grades) of the minimum threshold number of matches applicable to any grade in which they played, shall be graded in the current season in the grade in which they have the greater number of matches (if equal, the lowest grade shall apply).
- ii. A player who has not played a total (across all grades) of the minimum threshold number of matches applicable to any grade in which they played shall retain their previous season grading. A player who has not been graded at the end of sectional play is ineligible to play Post Sectional matches without written permission from the State Match Committee.

11.10. Eligibility for Post Sectional:

- i. To be eligible for post sectional play a player must have been graded in the current season in that Grade or in a lower Grade.
- ii. A club may seek exemption to the above for a player to participate in any post sectional matches (including State Finals) by completing a Player Waiver for Post Section Eligibility form, which must be sent to district for endorsement, prior to being sent to State Match Committee, for approval.

- iii. A waiver of eligibility will only be considered if:
 - There are insufficient eligible players available whose current season grading is in the grade required AND
 - The Club's next lowest graded side is also involved in Post-Sectional Play.
- iv. Applications for players who have not played in the current season will only be considered for the Club's lowest Grade.
- v. Post sectional matches other than a Zone or State Pennant Final do not affect a player's current season grading.

11.11. Participation in Bowls NSW Open State Pennants

- i. A player may not participate in more than one match in any Round of Sectional Pennant Play (Grades 1 - 7) except for a resumed match or a rescheduled match.
- ii. In a resumed or rescheduled match, a player may play a match in a higher grade in place of an originally named player who is ineligible or unavailable for a reason accepted by the Controlling Body on the rescheduled/resumed date. Prior written permission shall be obtained from the Controlling Body.
- iii. In a resumed match, if only one player is unavailable then a Substitute MUST be used; if 2 players are unavailable in a Rink, a Substitute and a Replacement player may be used.
- iv. Matches shall be counted as matches played for grading and eligibility for post-section purposes.
- v. For the purpose of this condition Round 1 shall be deemed as the first match scheduled to be played in that grade, round 2 the second match scheduled to be played, and so on. The date on which the match is played is not considered.

11.12. Grade 1 Scheduled on a Later Date

- i. Where Grade 1 Open State Pennants matches are scheduled on later dates than other grades contested, the players intended to form the Grade 1 side shall be nominated to the State Match Committee and Zone Association, no later than 14 days prior to the scheduled first round date of any of the other grades to be played.
- ii. The players nominated to play in the Grade 1 side shall be ineligible to play in Grades 2-7.
- iii. If a player not nominated as part of an intended Grade 1 side, participates in their first match of the season in Grade 1, they will then become ineligible to play in Grades 2 – 7, except with written approval from the State Match Committee.
- iv. A player who has previously played in the corresponding round in Grades 2 to 7 is ineligible to play in the same round except with written approval from the State Match Committee.

11.13. Penalties for Infringements

A side playing an ineligible player shall forfeit the match to their opponents

- i. The non-infringing side shall be awarded maximum points (10 points) and be credited with a margin of +15 shots or the margin by which they won, whichever is the greater.
- ii. The infringing side be awarded 0 points and be credited with a margin of -15 shots or the margin by which they lost, whichever is the greater.
- iii. If scores are required to be recalculated (to apply the 15 shot margin) the infringing side shall retain their number of shots scored and the non-infringing side shall be recorded as having the non-infringing side score shots plus 15 shots

12.Match & Season Participation Records

12.1. Zones & Clubs Using Bowlslink

- i. Zones and Clubs are encouraged to use Bowlslink to set up and administer competitions.
- ii. Please refer to Bowlslink training manuals & tutorials. (Bowls NSW Sports team & Bowls Australia RBM's are also available to help with set up).
 - Clubs must submit their sides in Bowlslink at least 24 hours prior to each round to be played.
 - Clubs must confirm their results of each match in Bowlslink no later than 3 hours after each match.
 - Results Sheets can be used at the discretion of each club and/or Zone.
- iii. Failure to complete any of the above may result in fines to clubs, as determined by Zone.

12.2. Zones & Clubs Not using Bowlslink

- i. For Zones & Clubs who do not utilise Bowlslink:
 - Match Result Sheets must be used by both sides.
 - Match Results Sheets must be submitted to Zone, within timeframes specified.
 - Clubs must complete the Player Participation Spreadsheet for all divisions after each round.
- ii. Failure to complete any of the above may result in fines to clubs, as determined by Zone.
- iii. Zones must submit their Player Participation Spreadsheets for all clubs with their end of competition submissions.

13.Play Not Commenced

- i. Matches not commenced may be played as necessary and at the discretion of the Zone. The Zone should notify all participating clubs of any dates allocated for matches not commenced as soon as practicable. It is preferred that the Zone allocate these dates and advise clubs at time of entry.
- ii. Home Clubs must advise the Zone of any play not commenced and the reason.
- iii. Zones may determine that if a match will have no bearing on sectional results that it is not required to be played and the match will be declared a tie (5 points each).
- iv. a match is not commenced participating clubs must send a result sheet, nominating the players selected. If it is subsequently determined that the match is not required to be played, the match can be counted towards a player's season grading. Such result sheet must be sent within the prescribed timeframe determined by the Zone. If no result sheet is received by Zone, the match will NOT count towards a player's season grading. (Please note if Zones & Clubs are using Bowlslink, entering the sides into the system replaces the requirement for sending result sheets).

14.Play Not Completed

- i. If a match is stopped and unable to be resumed, the match shall be resumed at a later date.
- ii. If a match is stopped due to inclement weather, the Controlling Body can allow for a period of up to 60 minutes to determine whether play can be re-commenced.
- iii. The zone should notify all participating clubs of any dates allocated for matches to be resumed as soon as practicable.
- iv. If a match is not completed and cannot be resumed, any score cards used must be signed by both teams, noting time of stoppage, and handed to controlling body. Upon any resumption of play, on a later date, the teams are allowed 2 trial ends each, with the match resuming from the end last played.

- v. Host Clubs must notify the zone of any match not able to be completed on the day of play together with reason for stoppage.
- vi. Zones may determine that if a match will have no bearing on sectional results that it is not required to be completed and the match will be declared a tie (5 points each).
- vii. If a match is determined that it is not required to be completed, the match will still count towards a player's season grading.

15.Side Officials

- i. All Side Officials are regarded as members of the side and must be attired in a manner that identifies them as member of that club/side.
- ii. All Side Officials should be nominated to the respective Controlling Body at each venue.

15.1. Side Managers

A Club shall appoint a Side Manager (Male or Female) who is member of the club and is responsible for drawing of cards & rinks, the toss of coin for the mat on first end as well as any extra ends and completion of any Result Sheet (if applicable), bowls discs and score board magnets.

15.2. Coaches

- i. A Club may appoint a coach to give advice to players during a match.
- ii. A coach must be a member of the club and must be a current accredited coach and provide proof of accreditation, if requested.
- iii. If a side comprises any player under the age of 18 years, the coach must also have a current and valid Working with Children Check number.

16.State Finals

16.1. State Finals Draw

- i. State Finals will be sectional play followed by knockout finals.
- ii. Clubs shall nominate their sides as three (3) teams of four (4) by completing the Bowls NSW Open State Pennant Finals Registration Form. In each match the draw will be Team 1 v Team 1; Team 2 v Team 2; Team 3 v Team 3.
- iii. 16.1.3. If two sides are drawn to play each other in the knockout stages of the finals and those two sides have already played each other in sectional play, the Controlling Body will alter the rink draw to ensure the same teams do not play each other.

16.2. Awards

- i. Winners and Runners Up Pennant Flags will be awarded to Clubs.
- ii. Winners and Runners Up badges will be awarded to players participating in the Final. An additional two (2) badges (for each of the winners & runners up) will be available for presentation to reserves who were eligible to play.
- iii. Winners & Runners Up badges will also be awarded to the Side Manager and Coach of sides participating in the final.
- iv. Clubs may apply for additional badges and will be invoiced for all costs.

16.3. Bowls NSW Open State Pennant Flags

Grade 1:	Union Jack Blue with White letters
Grade 2:	Red with White letters
Grade 3:	White with Royal Blue letters
Grade 4:	Green with White letters
Grade 5:	Gold with Green letters
Grade 6:	Airforce Blue (Sky Blue) with White letters

Grade 7: Brown with White letters