

CENTRAL OTAGO BOWLS INCORPORATED

CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Introduction:

1.1. Purpose: The purpose of this Code is to ensure that Members of Central Otago Bowls, both in the normal course of membership and as Participants in any Event held, or hosted, by Central Otago Bowls or another centre or club, are aware of the standard of conduct expected of them and the consequences of breaching that standard. In addition the Code is to ensure that other Participants in any Event held, or hosted, by Central Otago Bowls, are aware of the standard of conduct expected of them and the consequences of breaching that standard.

1.2. **Commencement:** This Code supersedes and replaces any previous Central Otago Bowls Code of Conduct. This Code came into force on 1 October 2022.

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2. Definitions:

2.1. For the purposes of this Code:

- (a) "Alcohol consumption" means: no consumption of alcohol on the green or in the immediate vicinity of the green during play at centre events. Centre representative teams will also be subject to the same alcohol restrictions when representing Central Otago Bowls at Centre and National events.
- (b) "Anti-Match Fixing Regulation" means the Bowls NZ Anti-Match Fixing Regulation, as amended from time to time.
- (c) "Central Otago Bowls Integrity Officer" means the Central Otago Bowls Centre Secretary, unless the Board decides otherwise.
- (d) "Central Otago Bowls Tournament Director" means the director of a Centre Event as appointed by Central Otago Bowls.
- (e) "Centre" means Central Otago Bowls Inc. and "centre" means another Bowls NZ centre.
- (f) "Club" means a club which is a member of Central Otago Bowls and "club" means a club which is a member of another centre.
- (g) "Conditions of Play" means the playing conditions, eligibility and other rules of the tournament under which a Centre Event is to be played, as determined by the Central Otago Bowls Tournament Director in accordance with the Regulations
- (h) "Event" means a bowls event held by, or under the auspices of, or administered by, Central Otago Bowls, or a bowls event held by another centre where a Member represents the Centre. Events may be held on an open, invitation or limited entry basis. An Event shall be deemed to start at the commencement of the official opening, managers' meeting or pre-event briefing immediately preceding the event (whichever is the earlier) and shall end at the conclusion of the official closing, prize giving or official function for the Event (whichever is the latter).
- (i) "Event Officials" means any individuals who are appointed by Central Otago Bowls, a Club a centre, or a club to positions of responsibility at an Event including, but not limited to, volunteers, employees, officers, umpires and the Tournament Director at which an Event is being held.

- (j) “Judicial Committee” has the meaning given to it in the Central Otago Bowls Judicial Regulation.
- (k) “Judicial Regulation” means the Central Otago Bowls Judicial Regulation as may be amended from time to time.
- (l) “Laws of the Sport” means the laws for playing the Game of Bowls as approved by World Bowls (including all domestic Regulations and the Conditions of Play).
- (m) “Match Fixing” means conduct defined as prohibited conduct in the Anti-Match Fixing Regulation including corruption, betting, misusing inside information and other of offence
- (n) “Member” means a member of a Club.
- (o) “Misconduct” in this Code means, but is not restricted to, situations where a Member or Participant:
 - i. breaches any provision of the Laws of the Sport, or the Constitutions, Regulations or Policies of Bowls NZ or Central Otago Bowls;
 - ii. fails to comply with alcohol or smoking or cell phone restrictions at an Event;
 - iii. deliberately loses or attempts to lose a game of bowls or plays unfairly;
 - iv. engages in Match Fixing;
 - v. alters a bowl after it has been stamped by a registered bowls tester without submitting it for retesting and re-stamping;
 - vi. at any event, function, or activity of the Centre, a Club, another centre, or club, or whilst on the property of the Centre, a Club, another centre or club, uses any profane, indecent or improper language;
 - vii. at any time or place engages in offensive or insulting behaviour towards another Party;
 - viii. acts in a manner which brings, or could bring, Bowls NZ, Central Otago Bowls, a Club, another centre or club, into disrepute;
 - ix. acts in a manner unbecoming of a Participant, or a Member of Central Otago Bowls, or a Club, or which is prejudicial to the Objects of Central Otago Bowls, or a Club;
 - x. aids or abets any of the conduct specified in (i) to (viii) above.
- (p) “Non-Smoking means” All Centre events will be non-smoking on and around the greens and restricted to the host venues designated smoking areas.
- (q) “Participant” means any person who participates in a Centre Event, including but not limited to players, coaches and managers.
- (r) “Party” means Bowls NZ, Central Otago Bowls or another centre, a Club or club, any member of a Club or club, a Participant, or any person acting for or on behalf of Bowls NZ, the Centre, a Club, another centre or a club

2.2. All other defined terms have the same meaning as defined in the Central Otago Bowls Constitution or the Central Otago Bowls Regulations.

3. **Members' and Participants' Obligations:**

- 3.1. **Sportsmanship:** Members and Participants must conduct themselves in a proper manner, including maintaining a high standard of personal conduct, so as not to bring themselves, Bowls NZ, Central Otago Bowls, a Club, another centre or club, or the Game of Bowls into disrepute. Accordingly, all Members and Participants will:
- (a) Always play to the best of their ability, including as part of a team (if relevant).
 - (b) Maintain an attitude of respect and politeness towards their opponents and Event Officials.
 - (c) Act with integrity, refraining from any conduct which might reflect on the integrity of an Event, or of Bowls NZ, Central Otago Bowls, a Club, another centre or club, or the Game of Bowls generally.
 - (d) Refrain from any discriminatory practices (or making any discriminatory statements) based on age, sex, race, religion, ethnic background or special ability/disability bowlers.
 - (e) Refrain from engaging in Misconduct.
- 3.2. **Laws:** Participants must accept any ruling given by an Event Official during an Event (subject to any right of appeal under the Centre Constitution or Regulations, Conditions of Play and the Laws of the Sport) and strictly comply with: (a) the Bowls NZ Regulations (including the Bowls NZ Anti-Doping Regulation, Bowls NZ Anti-Match Fixing Regulation and Bowls NZ Judicial Regulation, as may be amended from time to time); and (b) the Laws of the Sport.
- 3.3. **Media:** Parties are entitled to make public statements or any other communication with the media (including via web-based social media e.g. Facebook, Twitter) provided that they do not make, or endorse, any public statement in the media (including web-based social media) that has (or may have) a negative effect on the interests of any other Party.
- 3.4. **Late Withdrawal:** Once the draw for an Event has been published players may only withdraw from the Event by providing the relevant Event Officials with evidence of a bona fide injury, illness, bereavement or other exceptional circumstance.
- 3.5. **Best efforts:** A Participant must always use his/her best efforts to complete a game and must not default unless he/she is reasonably unable to play or complete a game.
- 3.6. **Late Arrival:** A Participant must not arrive late for a game, resulting in the default of the game, without providing Event Officials with evidence of an exceptional circumstance that prevented the Participant's attendance.
- 3.7. **Default:** A Participant must not default or withdraw from an Event in order to allow the Participant to compete in another Event that is to occur on the same day.
- 3.8. **Playing after withdrawal:** A Participant must not compete in another Event after declaring themselves unavailable to compete in an Event, unless otherwise agreed with Central Otago Bowls, or another centre.
- 3.9. **Obscenities:** Members and Participants must refrain from directing any words, signs or gestures towards any other Member, Participant, Event Official, or the Central Otago Bowls Tournament Director that are understood in any language to have an obscene or offensive meaning.
- 3.10. **Dress:** Participants must present themselves for play in suitable sports clothing and must comply with any Central Otago Bowls Regulations, including not competing with the logos of sponsors and Central Otago Bowls, and with all reasonable directions of Event Officials regarding dress standards while competing in an Event.

4. Match Fixing:

- 4.1. Match Fixing Prohibited: Match Fixing by Participants at, or in connection with, Centre Events is prohibited as specified in the Anti-Match Fixing Regulation.

5. Breach of Code:

- 5.1. **Breach of Obligations by a Participant:** If an Event Official, player, coach or other person entitled to do so under the Laws of the Sport, considers that a Participant may have breached any obligation under this Code, that person shall refer the matter to the Central Otago Bowls Tournament Director who shall:
- (a) where it is alleged to be Match Fixing, refer it to the Central Otago Bowls Integrity Officer for investigation in accordance with the Anti-Match Fixing Regulation;
 - (b) where it is for any other matter:
 - i. dismiss the matter without a hearing if the Central Otago Bowls Tournament Director considers that the matter is frivolous or is brought for vexatious reasons; or
 - ii. refer the matter to the Judicial Committee in accordance with the Judicial Regulations and, subject to clause 5.1 (c) below, suspend the alleged offending player from the Event with immediate effect, pending the determination of the Judicial Committee.
 - (c) **Right to Natural Justice:** Prior to imposing a suspension, the Central Otago Bowls Tournament Director must inform the alleged offending Participant of the alleged breach of the Code and give the Participant the opportunity to provide their version of the events giving rise to the alleged breach.
- 5.2. **Other Breaches:** If a Party or other person entitled to do so, considers that another Party may have breached any obligation (other than an obligation as a Participant) under this Code, then the person making that allegation shall refer the matter to the Central Otago Bowls Integrity Officer who shall:
- i. Dismiss the matter without a hearing if the Central Otago Bowls Integrity Officer considers that the matter is frivolous or is brought for vexatious reasons; or
 - ii. Refer the matter to the Judicial Committee in accordance with the Judicial Regulations.