

LAWN BOWLING

1. The Alberta 55 Plus Games and all ALBERTA 55 PLUS sanctioned events will follow the official W.B.B. rules as adopted by Bowls Canada Boulingrin.

2. General Overview

The object of the game is to get your bowls closer to the jack than your opponent. This is achieved by players from each team taking turns rolling their bowls down the green toward the jack. After all the bowls have been delivered (the conclusion of the end), it is determined how many bowls you have closer than your opponent's nearest bowl. This is how you would score points. Your opponent would score points by counting the number of bowls they have closer to the jack than your nearest bowl at the conclusion of an end.

The game has an added complexity when you realize that the jack can be moved at any time during the game by hitting it with a bowl. This forces you to adapt both offensive and defensive strategies throughout the course of an end. In addition, the distance the jack is from the mat can be anywhere from 70 feet to 114 (or 120) feet from the mat. The mat itself can also be moved to a different location on the rink at the beginning of an end. As you can see, there are a number of variables, not mentioning weather conditions, playing surface or time of day, which can make the game very complex.

3. Equipment

- a) **Mat:** The mat shall be of a size 600 mm (20 inches) long and 360mm (14 inches) wide.
- b) **Jack:** The Jack shall be spherical, and white or yellow in colour and not be less than 63mm, not more than 64mm and not less than 225g nor more than 285g in weight.
- c) **Bowls:** Bowls shall be made of wood, rubber or composition and shall be black, brown or any other colour acceptable to the W.B.B. Each Bowl of the set shall bear an individual distinguishing mark on each side of the Bowl.
- d) **The Green:** The Green shall be a rectangle, have a suitable level playing surface and be provided with suitable boundaries in the form of a ditch and bank. The Green shall be divided into spaces called rinks. The length shall not be less than 34m and not more then 40m in the direction of play
- e) **The Ditch:** The Green shall be surrounded by a ditch which shall have a holding surface which is free from obstacles, and is not injurious to Jack or Bowls. The ditch shall not be less than 200mm nor more than 380mm wide and it shall not be less than 50mm nor more than 200mm deep.

- f) **The Bank:** The bank shall be not less than 230mm above the level of the green, preferably upright, or alternatively at an angle of not more than 35 degrees from the perpendicular

4. General form and duration

- a) A game of Bowls shall be played on one rink or on several rinks. It shall consist of a specified number of shots or ends, or shall be played for any period of time as previously arranged.
- b) The ends of the game shall be played alternately in opposite directions.
- c) When a match is to be played, the draw for the rinks to be played on shall be made by the Skips or their representatives.

6. Absentee Player(s) and Forfeited Game

- a) It is the responsibility of each player to be aware of the start time for each game. The umpire shall score one shot against an absent player or team after every ten minute period that they are late, and it shall be counted as an end played. At the end of thirty minutes, the game shall be forfeited to the opposing player or team.

7. Dress Code

All players and officials shall adhere to the following dress code on the green, based upon the code specified by Bowls Canada for the Canadian Championships:

- a) Women shall be permitted to wear white or cream dresses, skirts, slacks, culottes, or walking shorts provided that the apparel selected is not more than three inches above the knee. A team may wear a combination of the above.
- b) Men shall be permitted to wear white or cream slacks or walking shorts provided that the apparel selected is not more than three inches above the knee. A team may wear a combination of the above.
- c) Only approved footwear (smooth soled and heelless) shall be permitted. All shoes must be a solid colour.
- d) Players participating on teams shall be permitted to wear coloured shirts or blouses provided that all team-members dress the same.

8. Tie-breaker

Round robin tournaments are recommended. Standings are based on the number of wins. If two or more teams are tied after the tournament, the following should be used:

- a) The total shots the team has scored shall be divided by the total shots against each team to determine the aggregate score. The team with the highest aggregate score shall receive the higher placing.
- b) If still tied, the aggregate number of ends each team won will determine placing (i.e. total number of ends lost subtracted from total number of ends won).

- c) If still tied, the winner of the game played between the teams in the tournament will receive the higher placing.
9. For update of rules see www.bowls-clubs.co.uk or www.bowlscanada.com

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