# CONDITIONS OF PLAY

# Men's Southwest Division Open

**All games will be played in line with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, Crystal Mark, 4th Edition.**

**ELIGIBILITY**: All United States citizens must be a member of Bowls USA; all other entrants must be members of a Member National Authority.

**DATES:** Saturday through Thursday, April 25-30, 2026

**VENUES: Long Beach LBC**

**FORMAT:**

Opposition on the first day will be determined based upon a blind draw at the venue.

**First day of each event**:

Rinks -- three 14-end games, 10 plus/minus points maximum

Pairs—four 14 end games, 10 plus/minus points maximum

Singles – four 14-point games, 7 plus/minus points maximum. There will be 6 rounds to complete 4 games per player. All players will mark 2 games. Time limit will be no jack after 1:25.

Round 1 8:30-9:55
Round 2 10:20-11:45
Round 3 12:10-1:35
Lunch
Round 4 1:55-3:20
Round 5 3:45-5:10
Round 6 5:35-7:00

Ranking after the first day will be done as follows:

1. Win points – 3 for a win, 1 for a tie, and 0 for a loss
2. First tiebreak is the total point difference based upon +/- 10 points per game
3. If two or more teams have the same number of wins and plus points, the tiebreaker shall be as follows: head-to-head results, if any; fewest opponent's points allowed; most ends won; one-end roll-off.

**Second day of each event:**

Most players will return and, based upon results of the first day, be placed into flights. One game guaranteed on the second day (except Championship Flight, which will be two games guaranteed).
Rinks games on the second day will be 14 ends except for the final of the Championship Flight, which will be 16 ends.
Pairs games on the second day will be 18 ends.
Singles matches will be to 18 points, except for the final which will be to 21 points.

A bye, if necessary, will be considered a game won, and you will receive an average winning score for the round you received the bye in.

**STARTING TIMES**: First game starts promptly at **9:00 a.m. ,** with trial ends at **8:45 a.m.**

**PRACTICE BEFORE TRIAL ENDS**: Practice is allowed between 8:00 a.m. and 8:25 a.m. if the greenskeeper has completed setup. All equipment (mats and jacks) to be returned where you found them. Attendance during morning announcements, beginning at 8:30 a.m., is mandatory.

**TRIAL ENDS**: Before each game, 2 bowls each way for Rinks, 4 bowls each way for Singles, and 3 bowls each way for Pairs. Trial ends are not mandatory in any game. If one team chooses not to play trial ends, the other team may do so.

**DETERMINATION OF WINNERS**: Three (3) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie, zero (0) points for a loss. Maximum of 10 plus points in any game.

**TIEBREAKER**: If two or more teams have the same number of wins and plus points, the tiebreaker shall be as follows: head-to-head results, if any; fewest opponent's points allowed; most ends won; one-end roll-off.

**TIME LIMITS**: No jack after second to last game finishes. No posted time limit for singles, but if slow play, one will be instituted. No time limits for the finals in fours, pairs, and singles.

**MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS**:

**Fours game:**

the leads, after the second player in their team has delivered their second bowl

the seconds, after delivery of their second bowl

the thirds, after delivery of their second bowl

the skips, after delivery of their first bowl.

It is permissible for the thirds to stand in the head with the skips while the leads and seconds deliver their bowls. When a player at the head walks up to the mat to deliver

their first bowl, their direct opponent can remain at the head until that bowl has come to rest before walking up to the mat to deliver their own first bowl.

**Pairs game:**

the leads, after delivery of their third bowl.

the skips, after delivery of their first and second bowl.

When a player at the head walks up to the mat to deliver their first bowl, their direct opponent can remain at the head until that bowl has come to rest before walking up to the mat to deliver their own first bowl.

**Singles game**:

the opponents, after delivery of their third and fourth bowls. (This restriction is lifted if there is not a marker for the game.)

In exceptional and limited circumstances, a Singles player can ask the marker for permission to walk up to the head, or a skip can ask that a player walks up to the head earlier than described above.

**LIVESTREAMING:** There may be livestreaming of games at this event. By entering the tournament, you are consenting to being livestreamed. You may not refuse nor demand to be livestreamed.

**NO BURNT ENDS**: A jack in motion that passes completely outside the boundaries of the rink of play must be re-spotted on the 2-meter mark on the center line. If that position is occupied by a bowl, the jack will be placed between the bowl and the mat line without touching the bowl.

**DRESS CODE**: Team members' shirts and below-the-waist attire must be matching. They may be white or colored. Collared shirts are required for all players. Collared Shirts with Sleeves, for example, polo shirts or buttoned-down shirts. No T-Shirts. Players may wear different lengths of bottoms of the same color. No Cutoffs.

**PRIZE MONEY/AWARDS**: The number of entries determines the amount of prize money. The allocation for prize money/awards will be posted at the venue.

**FOOTWEAR**: Shoes must be flat-soled and heel-less. This rule will be enforced.

**CHANGES IN SCHEDULING**: If an event cannot be conducted in accordance with the published schedule or if a special situation arises, the Tournament Committee may make whatever changes it deems appropriate. In these Conditions of Play, Tournament Committee and Tournament Director are synonymous.

**DATE STAMPS ON BOWLS**: Any bowls that have a clearly legible ALBA, IBB, WBB or WB stamp, date, and serial number are approved for use; however, there will be no inspection of bowls.

**DISPUTES**: The umpire's decision is final in all circumstances except those relating to the meaning or interpretation of a law, in which case there will be a right of appeal to the Controlling Body.

**LATE ARRIVALS**: A penalty of one point and one end played will be assessed for each ten minutes after the official start time. A late arrival time of 30 minutes or more will result in forfeiture of that game. This rule may be waived in extenuating circumstances.

**SMOKING**: Smoking is prohibited on any green. Designated smoking areas, if any, will be identified during morning announcements.

**SUBSTITUTES**: Substitutes must be approved by the Tournament Director. They may not have played in the same event, nor may they skip. Teams are responsible to find their own substitute and are responsible for distribution of any prize money if a substitute is used.

**CELL PHONES AND/OR SOUND-EMITTING DEVICES**: Any such devices must be muted or turned down. Violations shall be considered a violation of rink possession. Law 41.7 is not superseded.

**UMPIRES**: Prior to start of play, umpires, as available, will be introduced.