

INCLEMENT WEATHER

POLICY

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2. Terminology and Definitions

2.1. **AGM**: The Annual General Meeting of Members, held according to the rules in the EKB Constitution.

2.2. **Bowls**: The game or sport of lawn bowls played indoors or outdoors, alone or with others, and includes all types mentioned in the EKB Constitution and defined by World Bowls.

2.3. **Club**: Any club that offers bowls in the local area and has access to a bowling green as defined in the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

2.4. **Committee**: A committee created according to the EKB Constitution.

2.5. **District**: The geographical area defined in section 103 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (as amended).

2.6. **Ekurhuleni Bowls**: The bowls association registered in the Ekurhuleni District, Gauteng province, also known as EKB.

2.7. **Bowls South Africa**: The bowls association registered as the Member National Authority (MNA) for South Africa, also known as Bowls SA.

2.8. **Modus Operandi**: This document , known as the MO, defines the practices and responsibilities of a Committee.

2.9. **SAIDS**: The South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport

2.10. **WADA**: The World Anti-Doping Agency.

2.11. **Izimbali**: The EKB Player's Association, who are responsible for fundraising in the District as well as protecting the interests of the players.

2.12. **Virtual Club**: Any club that is accepted by Bowls SA or EKB to enter a tournament although not formally registered with their own greens and their own management.

2.13. **Bona Fide**: An affiliated member of a club, who is also affiliated to Bowls SA and EKB.

2.14. **Affiliation**: Affiliation refers to the fee which is paid by a player to belong to Bowls SA and EKB. This entitles the player to participate in the sport within the area of affiliation.

2.15. **Player**: An affiliated person participating in the Sport of Lawn Bowls

2.16. **Regalia**: Clothing, shoes and headgear which is branded with the colours and emblems of clubs, Districts or national associations. This is regulated by the club or District affiliated to.

2.17. **Veteran**: An affiliated player who is older than sixty (60) years of age. Previously called ***senior***

2.18. **Senior**: An affiliated player who is older than eighteen (18) years of age, previously called ***open***. There is no upper age limit to this.

2.19. **Junior**: An affiliated player who is younger than twenty-five (25) years of age.

2.20. **Youth**: An affiliated player who is younger than thirty-five (35) years of age.

2.21. **Novice**: An affiliated player who has not played longer than three (3) years since the day they registered with Bowls SA and has not won a Club Singles tournament or a Championship title.

2.22. **Scholar**: An affiliated player who is currently at school and striving to achieve their matriculation (Basic Education) certificate. They are affiliated to Bowls SA and EKB but are not liable for affiliation fees.

2.23. **Good Standing**: A member in good standing is an affiliated player who is currently a bona fide member of an affiliated club whose membership fees are fully paid up and not under any form of disciplinary action or suspension.

2.24. **Inter District Tournament**: This is an annual tournament hosted by Bowls SA. In the event of it being hosted for the Juniors, it is referred to as the Bowls SA Junior Nationals. In the event of it being hosted for the Youth, it is referred to as the Under 35 Inter Districts. The traditional entries are for Open, B and Veteran players.

2.25. **Gauteng Bowls**: This is the Provincial Bowls Association for the Gauteng Province. They annually host the Gauteng Open, Gauteng Challenge and the Colts & Fillies tournaments.

2.26. **Conditions of Play**: This refers to the specific rules of play defined for a specific tournament. The Conditions of Play (COP) overrides all generic rules normally used in Tournaments.

2.27. **SASCOC**: This is the South African Sports Confederation, Olympic and Paralympic Committee.

2.28. **Set**: A set represents a fixed number of ends where the team with the highest shots scored in that set will win the designated set points.

2.29. **Game**: A collection of sets played between two teams. The overall winner of the game, based on shots will be awarded the designated game points.

2.30. **Match**: A collection of games played between sides. The overall winner of the match will be awarded the designated match points.

2.31. **Team**: A collection of two or more players participating in the game against another team.

2.32. **Side**: Two teams form a side which competes against another side in a match.

3. Document Control

Only the most recent version of this Inclement Weather Policy (IWP) is allowed to be in effect. To ensure this, version control will be implemented and maintained.

The document version and release date will be displayed in the footer of this IWP.

The approved IWP will also be available on the EKB website for public access, as well as to serve as history of prior versions for reference.

The approved IWP will be signed and dated by the President of EKB.

This version (**Inclement Weather Policy Version 1.2**) will supersede the previous version (Heat Policy).

4. Applicable Laws and Regulations

All games will be conducted in strict accordance with the following regulations:

4.1. **The Laws of the Sport of Bowls** – Crystal Mark 4th Edition

Every match will adhere to the internationally recognised rules as set out in the Crystal Mark 4th Edition, ensuring consistency and fairness throughout the tournament.

4.2. **The Domestic Regulations** of Bowls South Africa

In addition to the international laws, all matches will comply with the specific domestic regulations established by Bowls South Africa, which govern local adaptations and procedures within the country.

4.3. The **Conditions of Play** for Ekurhuleni Bowls.

In addition to the international laws and national laws, all matches will comply with the specific district regulations established by Ekurhuleni Bowls (EKB), which provide further guidance and requirements for the conduct of matches within their tournaments.

4.4. The **Inclement Weather Policy a**s described in this document

In addition to the international laws and national laws and Conditions of Play, all matches will comply with the specific district regulations established by Ekurhuleni Bowls (EKB), which provide further guidance and requirements for the safety of players during inclement weather conditions during their tournaments.

5. Controlling Body

All District Championship Tournaments will be under the control of EKB through its nominated Tournament Committee.

The Tournament Committee will comprise of:

5.1. The Tournament Convenor

5.2. The District Competition Secretaries (Two Genders – Where Possible)

5.3. The District Treasurer

5.4. The District Secretary

6. The Jury of Appeal

The Jury of Appeal will comprise of ：

6.1. One member of the District Executive Committee

6.2. One member of the District Standing Committee for Players (Izimbali)

6.3. One member of the District Standing Committee for Technical Officials

6.4. One District Life member

Any decisions made by the Jury of Appeal will be deemed as final.

7. Lightning

Lightning is the biggest threat to life while playing bowls outdoors. The protection of life and the safety of players is our highest priority. All decisions must be made in order to facilitate these two objectives.

7.1. Greens are to be evacuated when lightning is within 12 km from the venue.

7.2. Only approved lightning meters (**Strike Alert**) may be used as they are recognised world wide as the leader in the field and require no calibration. Each hosting club **must at all times have a Strike Alert available** which is fully charged.

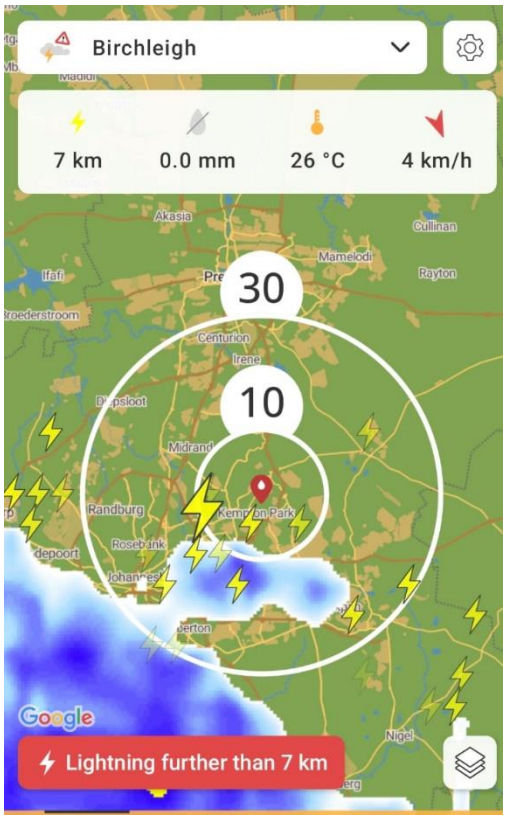
7.3. Should the hosting club have a **lightning siren**, this may be used as a determining factor for the evacuation decision.

7.4. Whichever of these indicate an unsafe situation first will be treated as the evaluation signal.

7.5. Evacuation is decided on by the highest qualified Technical Official, the Tournament Official or Team Captain in this sequence.

7.6. During evacuation, players are to leave all their bowls on the green in situ and immediately enter the clubhouse or any indoor location where it is safe.

7.7. The Technical Official, the Tournament Official or Team Captain in charge will regularly evaluate the current storm conditions using the Strike Alert. The Technical Official or Tournament Official may use an approved lightning app at this point to help decide on the direction the storm is travelling and thus facilitate a quicker return to the green.



7.8. Once it has been established that it is safe to continue play (**minimum ten (10) minutes**), players may return to play. **All uncompleted ends must be replayed**. Any **shots agreed on by players before being called off will count**.

7.9. Should it not be viable to continue play safely, the District Competition Secretary must be notified immediately. The District Competition Secretary or a member of the District Executive has the authority able to make the decision on the match to be abandoned.

8. Precipitation (Rainfall, hail and snow)

High volumes of rain and hail is prevalent in the summer months in EKB. Although a hailstorm can seriously injure players on the green, high rainfall is not a direct hazard to players. It can however damage the greens.

Snow, although infrequent, may have similar effects on the players and greens.

The biggest concern is players slipping and falling due to wet greens and muddy conditions.

Bowls being delivered in wet conditions may also damage greens.

8.1. **Evacuate** the greens when **precipitation** has the potential to **damage the greens**.

8.2. **Evacuate** the greens when **precipitation** has the potential to **cause players to slip and fall and injure themselves.**

8.3. **Players** when **feeling** unsafe in the conditions may **leave the green and seek shelter** until such time as it is safe to continue.

8.4. **All decisions** relating to the evacuation of the greens due to precipitation are tasked first to the **greenskeeper** (if available) and then the **Tournament Official** on duty. This decision may be made in conjunction with a **moisture meter** which all hosting clubs should have.

8.5. Play may be resumed when deemed safe.

8.6. Should it not be viable to continue play safely, the District Competition Secretary must be notified immediately. The District Competition Secretary or a member of the District Executive has the authority able to make the decision on the match to be abandoned.

9. Wind

Extreme wind has been known to move jacks and blow mats off the rinks of play.

During these conditions the Tournament Official or Team Captains need to remain vigilant for any potential objects being blown around which can cause injury.

9.1. Jacks moved by the wind must be replaced to their former position, which needs to be agreed on by the skips, or players in a singles game. If consensus is not gained, the end is replayed.

9.2. Mats moved by the wind must be replaced on the centre-line as close to the original position as possible, as agreed on by the skips, or players in a singles game. If consensus is not gained, the end is replayed.

9.3. **Players** when **feeling** unsafe in the conditions may **leave the green and seek shelter** until such time as it is safe to continue.

9.4. **All decisions** relating to the evacuation of the greens due to excessive wind are tasked to the **Tournament Official** on duty.

9.5. Play may be resumed when deemed safe.

9.6. Should it not be viable to continue play safely, the District Competition Secretary must be notified immediately. The District Competition Secretary or a member of the District Executive has the authority able to make the decision on the match to be abandoned.

10. Heat and humidity

During the summer in EKB, we experience high temperatures. This has a large impact on playing lawn bowls.

Although we are all at risk of fatigue, dehydration, heat exhaustion and heat stroke, it is important to note that the risk is higher among those who are elderly, have chronic health problems or have recently experienced illness.

10.1. All hosting clubs are to have **a temperature and humidity meter available at all times** which must be fully charged and stored in a cool location.

10.2. The following chart shows the impact of **temperature and humidity**.

Metrication of Template:HeatTable

Relative Humidity (%)	temperature (°C)																
	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43
40	27	28	29	30	31	32	34	35	37	39	41	43	46	48	51	54	57
45	27	28	29	30	32	33	35	37	39	41	43	46	49	51	54	57	
50	27	28	30	31	33	34	36	38	41	43	46	49	52	55	58		
55	28	29	30	32	34	36	38	40	43	46	48	52	55	59			
60	28	29	31	33	35	37	40	42	45	48	51	55	59				
65	28	30	32	34	36	39	41	44	48	51	55	59					
70	29	31	33	35	38	40	43	47	50	54	58						
75	29	31	34	36	39	42	46	49	53	58							
80	30	32	35	38	41	44	48	52	57								
85	30	33	36	39	43	47	51	55									
90	31	34	37	41	45	49	54										
95	31	35	38	42	47	51	57										
100	32	36	40	44	49	54											

Caution
Extreme Caution
Danger
Extreme Danger

10.3. Play should be suspended by the **Tournament Official** when the combination of these factors reaches **36 degrees Celsius and 39 percent humidity**. All players must then be evacuated from the green and seek shelter in a cooler location.

10.4. Play will be **suspended for at least ten (10) minutes** to allow rehydration and cooling. Please assist bowlers who are not feeling well.

10.5. As soon as the Tournament Official determines that it is safe to play, play may continue. Until such time, the Tournament Official will continue evaluating the situation.

10.6. The **Heat Index** may also be evaluated by the Tournament Official using a suitable app to help make a decision.



10.7. **Should players still feel unsafe or unable to play,** they may request their reserve to play.

10.8. Should no reserve be available, a **substitute may be selected according the substitution rules** as described by the EKB COP and the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

10.9. **No team or player can force another team or player to play**.

10.10. Should it not be viable to continue play safely, the District Competition Secretary must be notified immediately. The District Competition Secretary or a member of the District Executive has the authority able to make the decision on the match to be abandoned.

11. Light and visibility

During the summer in EKB, we experience numerous thunderstorms. This has a large impact on playing lawn bowls.

Not only due to precipitation, lightning and safety, but also to **light**.

Bowls requires a certain amount of light to be able to be played comfortably and successfully.

Lighting is measured in lux and can be used to determine whether play can be done safely and successfully.

11.1. All hosting clubs are recommended to have **a light meter available at all times** which must be fully charged. Most moisture meters used for greens also contain a built-in light meter.

11.2. International standards require a **minimum of 100 lux**.

11.3. When light becomes a challenge for play, the **Tournament Official will measure the light impact** on the game.

11.4. Should the reading **be below 100 lux, play will be suspended** and all players are to leave the green.



11.5. **Play will remain being suspended until lighting has again exceeded 100 lux**.

11.6. Should it not be viable to continue play safely, the District Competition Secretary must be notified immediately. The District Competition Secretary or a member of the District Executive has the authority able to make the decision on the match to be abandoned.

12. Acceptance

This document has been accepted and signed into effect by the Ekurhuleni Bowls President and witnesses as below:

_____ _____

EKB Technical Official Committee Date

_____ _____

EKB Competition Secretary Date

_____ _____

Ekurhuleni Bowls President Date