



BOWLS
VICTORIA

REGION BOUNDARY REVIEW
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS





Frequently asked questions

When will the move to close Divisions and the transfer to Region occur?

- A. The transfer of divisions into one Region will be effective from the 1st July 2021. If any Region can complete the process by 1st July 2020 this would be encouraged and supported. All existing Divisions in Regions will need to meet with each other to confirm the way forward. This meeting should be coordinated through the existing Region Structure.

Does this mean new constitutions will need to be introduced at Region level?

- A. New Region constitutions may need to be introduced, depending on the individual Region. BV will assist all Regions in completing this task and have created a template to ensure the transition is as smooth as possible.

Who will pay for Region Constitutions?

- A. Bowls Victoria will assist in the change of constitutions providing the template and covering the costs of lodging the new constitutions through Consumer Affairs Victoria.

Does my club need a new constitution?

- A. Individual clubs should not require any changes to their constitutions

How will a new Board be elected?

- A. BV will assist in providing information as to how to go about creating a new Board. Of course, all the existing Divisions will have additional input into determining how many members will sit on the board or any other committee required to be appointed to manage the Regions responsibilities. It's worth noting that best-practice governance suggests a Board of not more than 9 persons.



Who will comprise the new board?

- A. It is important that all current divisions have representation on the new Region Board to ensure fairness is paramount. This is particularly important in the initial years.

What will happen to the current bank accounts where there are divisions within Regions?

- A. Constitutions generally advise on what is to happen to existing funds should a division be no longer operating, as a rule it should say that funds will be employed to benefit the game of bowls. In this case we would envisage that all existing divisions will close their bank accounts and the funds be transferred into a Region account where all the activities of the Region are administered from.

Who will be responsible for organising the playing areas in my Region?

- A. The Region Board will determine what the playing areas are upon consultation with the various stakeholders.

How will State events be conducted in my Region?

- A. Essentially the same as they currently are. If needed, the Region Board can decide to have all players within the region compete, or use the 'Playing Areas' to eliminate excessive travel.





How will the various committees work?

- A. The committees required to manage bowls in a Region will be agreed upon by the current Divisions and should reflect “best practice” It will be in the best interests of all Region members to actively contribute to the running of the Region.

Will the Region have regular meetings?

- A. When the Region Board is established the Board will determine the frequency of meetings and where they are proposed to be held.

What format will they take?

- A. All Region meetings will be conducted similarly how current Regions are managed with the primary focus of running a bowls competition effectively.

What will happen to existing life members of the Divisions?

- A. Existing life members of Divisions will be noted as life members of the Region. Future recognition will be determined by the Region Board.

How will the change affect our sponsorship arrangements?

- A. Where clubs have individual sponsorships there should be no changes, where a Region has contractual arrangements in place it may be an opportunity to re-negotiate current arrangements given the proposed changes. Playing areas could still be used where required.



What will happen to the Honour Boards in my division?

- A. The existing honour boards should be held in existing premises, new honour boards should be erected at a mutually agreed venue.

Will I be forced to play and travel further than I do presently?

- A. There may be some alteration to current playing areas but that will be determined by the new Region Board. Ideally clubs will play in playing areas that cause a minimum of disruption to members. One of the overlying factors in the establishment of a Region is to create a better competition at a lower cost for its members.

How will representatives be chosen to represent my Region at Representative events?

- A. The region committee responsible for representative selection will determine selection criteria with all members of a Region will be eligible for selection.

Who will do fixtures for the competition?

- A. The Region match committee will determine the Pennant/Competition calendar for all clubs in the Region.

Can we still have Club tournaments?

- A. All clubs will be able to conduct individual tournaments as they currently do.





What will be the additional costs to my club?

- A. Club members should not see any increases in affiliation fees as a result of amalgamating divisions into Regions and instead probably should see a decrease on the basis that certain fixed costs such as honorariums and state event prize monies will not need to be duplicated. Typically, clubs pay an affiliation fee to their Division and within this amount a fee is payable to the Region for the purpose of managing State Event finals and managing representative Region championships.

How will this move of divisions to a Region affect me?

- A. The overall factor in making this change is to counter the ongoing loss of volunteers and to lessen the burden on existing office bearers for the existing divisions.

The majority of members in your division will see no effect of the streamlining of the Region. Playing areas may be different, however the underlying pennant structure will not alter, it is not relevant where a Board operates from as the underlying matter is that bowls will be still be conducted.



My division wants to stay as a division.

- A. Unfortunately, this change is not negotiable nor is it sustainable in the long run. The sport is faced with reduction in the number of volunteers putting their hands up to run the competitions and it is also obvious that there is a high degree of over-governance across the regions that have divisions.

The establishment of this improved governance structure will reduce the level of volunteers required to run the sport, it will save members monies through economies of scale and create better competitions in areas geographically located.





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