



Competition Format and Rules

Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Competition Format

The lawn bowls and Para lawn bowls competitions at GC2018 consist of men's and women's events:

Men's medal events: four		Women's medal events: four	Mixed/Open medal events: two
Singles	Singles		
Pairs	Pairs		B2/B3 mixed pairs
Triples	Triples		B6/B7/B8 open triples
Fours	Fours		

Sport Rules and Procedures

Competition format/composition of sides:

In the lawn bowls main draw, each CGA can have a maximum of five players nominated. Each player can compete in a maximum of two disciplines across the tournament. The singles and fours events for each gender will be delivered simultaneously, as will the pairs and triples events.

Athletes are permitted to enter a maximum of two medal events.

An athlete cannot compete in both the singles and fours, nor both the pairs and triples.

For Para bowls, the mixed pairs must include one male and one female athlete. The combination can be either two B2 bowlers, two B3 bowlers, or one B2 and one B3 bowler. Each athlete will be accompanied by an athlete director, as per CGF regulations.

Competition progression:

All lawn bowls events will follow the same general competition format, beginning with a group stage, called sectional play. A certain number of players/teams will advance to the knockout stage.

From quarterfinal games onwards, if pairs, triples or fours game scores are equal after the prescribed number of ends, an extra end will be played to determine the winner as specified in Law 28.

Any player/team arriving at the green more than 15 minutes after the official starting time shall forfeit the game and points for that game, or not progress through to the next round. If the late attendance is the fault of GC2018, the appropriate GC2018 policy will apply.

Para lawn bowls team composition, overview and classification:

The Para lawn bowls events are B2/B3 mixed pairs and B6/B7/B8 open triples

- B2/B3 mixed pairs: each athlete will use three bowls, with the games being 15 ends
- B6/B7/B8 open triples: each athlete will use two bowls, with the games being 15 ends



Team composition:

Mixed pairs must include one male and one female athlete. The combination can be either two B2 bowlers, two B3 bowlers, or one B2 and one B3 bowler. Each athlete will be accompanied by an athlete director as per CGF regulations. With regards to the B6/B7/B8 open triples event, the team must include at least one B6 player.

Individual and team events	Event phase	Competition type
B2/B3 mixed pairs	Sectional play Semifinals Bronze final Gold final	Pool progressing to bracket with direct elimination and finals

Competition progression:

Sectional play stage

- Players/teams will play in groups in which all players/teams in the group play each other
- A final ranking order for each group will be calculated. Ranking will be established by the number of matches won or in accordance with provisions set out in the scoring section of the Conditions of Play (see later in this document)
- Top-four ranked teams will advance to the semifinals

Knockout stage

- Winner of each semifinal advances to the gold-medal round. Losing semifinalists meet in the bronze-medal match.

Para-sport classification:

Para-sport events at the Games will be open to specified sport classes only. Athletes must comply with the classification rules in order to qualify, enter and compete in these events.

There will be no dedicated classification held at GC2018.

Para lawn bowls sport classes at GC2018 are:

Classification	Description
B2	Bowlers with a visual impairment (VI). They can recognise hand movements and have a visual acuity of 2/60.
B3	Bowlers with a visual impairment. They have a visual acuity of more than 2/60 and up to 6/60.
B6	Bowlers with balance difficulties rated as a loss of five points or more. Athletes may be ambulant (walking) or use a wheelchair.
B7	Bowlers with minor difficulties with balance, rated as a loss of less than five points. Athletes may be ambulant or use a wheelchair.
B8	Bowlers with no noticeable impairment of function, but having a permanent impairment. They are rated as having lost 10 points on the bench test. Athletes are ambulant.



Conditions of play:

Sectional play stage

1. The player or team with the greatest number of games won is the winner of the section. All other players or teams will be ranked accordingly.
2. If games won are equal, then the player or team with the highest ranked number of points will be ranked higher (three points will be awarded for a win, one point for a draw).
3. If games won and points are equal, the player or team with the highest net total of shots ('shots for' minus 'shots against') will be ranked higher.
4. If games won, points, and net total of shots are all equal, then the player or team with the lowest number of 'shots against' will be ranked higher.
5. If there is still equality, the player or team that won the game between the players or teams that are equal will be ranked higher.
6. If the game between the players or teams that are equal is drawn, the first player or team in the drawn game to win an end will be ranked higher.

Delaying (slow) play:

Players are required to play without undue delay and in a manner which does not prevent their opponents from being able to complete the requisite number of ends within the time limit prescribed by the Controlling Body (two hours and 15 minutes).

Disqualifications:

Disqualifications may happen at the lawn bowls competition. They can occur throughout the event, after the event and, in the case of doping, after the Commonwealth Games is over.

Jury of Appeal:

A Jury of Appeal shall be appointed for the purpose of deciding upon any points not provided in the conditions of player and/or for dealing with any referrals or appeals from decisions made by umpires and/or the Controlling Body. In the event of a referral or appeal, they will be made in accordance with the *Laws of the Sport of Bowls* and any *World Bowls Rules and Regulations*. A Jury of Appeal, comprising four people, will be appointed.