

**2024 Central Division Open  
Conditions of Play**

- Controlling Body: Central Division of Bowls USA
- Event: Central Division Open: Team (4 person teams - multiple disciplines)  
Potlicker (2 person teams – Pairs)
- Dates: August 1-2, 2024 Team Event  
August 3-4, 2024 Potlicker Pairs Event
- Venue: Milwaukee Lake Park Lawn Bowling Association  
3131 E Newberry Blvd  
Milwaukee, WI
- Entry conditions: Member of Bowls USA or a World Bowls affiliated organization  
Teams may be any combination of men and/or women  
- Individual entry is also possible (we will try to find you a team)  
Submission of Registration and Entry Form and payment of fees
- Practice: Practice times will be available on July 30 and 31  
- Morning and afternoon sessions with a club member host  
- Evening sessions with our members participating in league play
- Practice will also be permitted on August 1 and 2 for players in the Potlicker Pairs Event that are not participating in the Team Event so long as it does not interfere with games in progress or maintenance activities.
- Draw: A draw will be conducted with all teams present before the start of competition for each event.

Format of Play and Length of Games:

Team Event

Possible Disciplines

- Singles
  - four (4) bowls per player
  - two (2) sets of nine (9) ends with one (1) tiebreaker if necessary
- Pairs
  - three (3) bowls per player
  - two (2) sets of seven (7) ends with one (1) end tiebreaker if necessary
- Triples
  - two (2) bowls per player
  - two (2) sets of seven (7) ends with one (1) end tiebreaker if necessary
- Fours
  - two (2) bowls per player
  - two (2) sets of seven (7) ends with one (1) end tiebreaker if necessary

Possible Types of Play

- 7 or 8 teams: sectional play on day 1, knockout play on day 2.
  - Sectional stage: 2 groups of 3-4 teams each. Round robin. Points will be used to rank teams within a group.

## 2024 Central Division Open Conditions of Play

- Knockout stage: Single elimination\*. The first ranked team of one group will play the fourth ranked team of the other group. The second ranked team of one group will play the third ranked team of the other group. The bracket will then proceed.
- \*Teams that are eliminated will continue to play in side games for some fun non-cash prizes.
- During sectional play, all ends of a set must be completed
- During knockout play, there must be no further play in a set if, at any point, it become impossible for one player or team to draw or win the set, given the number of ends left
- 5 or 6 teams
  - Sectional play (round robin) over 2 days
- 3 or 4 teams
  - Sectional play (round robin) on day 1
  - Sectional play (round robin) on day 2 with different disciplines than day 1

### Sets Play

- The winner of each set will be the player/team with the most shots at the completion of the ninth end (singles) or seventh end (pairs, triples, fours). The winner of the game being the better of two sets (a tiebreaker is not a set).
- If the shot scores are tied after the last end of a set, the set is drawn
- If the game is tied (two drawn sets or one set win for each) after the two sets have been completed, a tiebreaker consisting of 1 end will be played to determine the winner.

### First to play

- First set – the skips or players (in Singles) must toss a coin and the winner of the toss has the options described in law 5.2.2
- Second set – the winner of the first set must place the mat and then deliver the jack and the first bowl. If the first set is a draw, the winner of the last scoring end in that set must place the mat and then deliver the jack and the first bowl
- Tiebreaker end – the skips or opponents in Singles must toss a coin and the winner of the toss has the options described in law 5.2.2

### Potlicker Pairs

- Pairs: four (4) bowls per player; twelve (12) ends
- Qualifying games on day 1
- Flighted brackets on day 2

Time Limit: All games will have a time limit of two (2) hours and thirty (30) minutes.

### Team Event

- If the time limit is reached and the last set has not been completed, the end currently being played must be completed and then the following will take place:
  - If team "A" won the first set and is winning the second set when the time limit is reached, team "A" will be declared the game winner and awarded wins for both sets
  - If team "A" won the first set and the second set is tied when the time limit is reached, team "A" will be declared the game winner and awarded a win for one set and a draw for one set. Team "B" will be awarded a draw for one set

**2024 Central Division Open  
Conditions of Play**

- If team “A” won the first set and team “B” is winning the second set when the time limit is reached, each team will be awarded a win for one set. A tiebreaker end will immediately commence to determine the game winner.

Potlicker Pairs

- If the time limit is reached and the last end has not been completed, the end currently being played must be completed. Game points will then be awarded

Scoring:

Team Event

The team will earn match points from each game based on

Win = 3 points                      Loss = 0 points

The team will earn set points from each set based on

Win = 1 point                      Draw = 0.5 points                      Loss = 0 points      Tiebreakers are not sets

If a game is forfeited, the non-offending player or team will be awarded 3 match points, 2 set wins, 2 set points and a net total of shots that is equal to the average net total of shots scored by the winners of all other games played in the same round of the same event.

If there is a bye, the team will be awarded 3 match points, 2 set wins, and 2 set points. No shot points will be awarded.

Potlicker Pairs

Win = 2 points                      Tie = 1 point                      Loss = 0 points

Plus points = max of 10 per game

If there is a bye or a game is forfeited, the non-offending team will be awarded 2 game points and a net total of shots that is equal to the average net total of shots scored by the winners of all other games played in the same round of the same event.

Tiebreaker: Team Event

Teams will be ranked based on the total number of match points accumulated. If the total match points are equal, the following will be used to rank the tied teams:

- The team with the highest number of sets won will be the winner (sets drawn are not included in determining the number of sets won, tiebreaker ends are not sets)
- If match points and sets won are equal, then the team with the highest total of set points will be the winner (tiebreaker ends are not sets)
- If all of the above are still equal, the team with the highest net total of shots over all games will be the winner.

Potlicker Pairs

Teams will be ranked based on the total number of game points accumulated. If the total number of games points are equal, the following will be used to rank the tied teams:

- Plus points
- Shot percentage (your total points / (your total points + opponents total points))

**2024 Central Division Open  
Conditions of Play**

- Trial ends:** Prior to the start of a game, each player or team will be allowed two trial ends. For trial ends, players may use the same number of bowls as they would in the game. Trial ends will commence 10 minutes prior to the official start time. Any player not ready to play at their official start time for any game shall forego their right to play trial ends.
- Dress Code:** Clothing: Players/Teams must be attired in the same upper and lower body attire in respect to color, design, and image. Players are free to choose the specific type of upper and lower body attire on an individual basis from the following:
- Upper Body Attire: Collared shirt (including sleeve and sleeveless)
  - Lower Body Attire: Pants, trousers, pedal pushers, culottes, shorts, skirts, skorts. No cutoffs.
- Footwear must be flat-soled (heel-less).
- Headwear: Hats/caps/visors of any color may be worn and do not need to match the headwear of other players.
- Bowls:** Bowls must be of the same set, Law D.4  
Altered, unmatched, coaching, or training bowls are not allowed.  
Bowls will not be inspected prior to the start of competition, but may be inspected at any time by an umpire and/or Controlling Body at the request of a singles player, Skip or Coach.
- Re-spotting the jack:** If a jack is dead, as described in law 19.1, the end must not be declared dead. Instead, the jack must be placed with the nearest point of the jack to the mat line at a single re-spot position which is 2 meters from the front ditch and on the centerline. If the re-spot position is partly or completely covered by a bowl, the jack must be placed as close as possible to the covered spot, between and in line with the spot and that corresponding spot at the opposite end of the rink, without touching a bowl.
- Late Arrivals:** A penalty of one shot and one end played will be assessed for each 10 minutes after the official start time if a player is late in being ready to deliver their first bowl. A late arrival time of 30 minutes or more will result in forfeiture of that game. The Controlling Body may waive this rule in extenuating circumstances.
- Substitutions:** Substitutes may be allowed, after the commencement of the opening round, in the event of illness or any unforeseen circumstance, once approved by the Controlling Body. They may not have played in the same event, nor may they skip. Teams are responsible for finding their own substitute and for sharing the entry fee expenses and distribution of their prize money, if any, amongst their team if a substitute is used.
- Slow Play:** Players must play without undue delay and in a way which does not prevent their opponents from being able to complete the required number of ends within the time limit decided by the Controlling Body. A singles player, skip, or coach may make an appeal to an umpire and/or Controlling Body that due to the actions of their opponents, their team is being prevented from playing all of their bowls within the time decided for

## 2024 Central Division Open Conditions of Play

the game. If the umpire and/or Controlling Body determines this to be the case, then they will warn the offending team, its skip and coach if there is one. If the offending team is deemed to be delaying play a second time, the offending team will forfeit the game.

Restricting the Movement of Players During Play: After delivering their first bowl, players will only be allowed to walk up to the head under the following circumstances

### Team Event

- Singles game
  - after delivery of their third and fourth bowls
- Pairs
  - Leads – after delivery of their third bowl
  - Skips – after delivery of their second and third bowl
- Triples
  - Leads – after the second player on their team has delivered their second bowl
  - Seconds – after delivery of their second bowl
  - Skips – after delivery of each of their bowls
- Fours
  - Leads – after the second player on their team has delivered their second bowl
  - Seconds – after delivery of their second bowl
  - Thirds – after delivery of their second bowl
  - Skips – after delivery of each of their bowls

### Potlicker Pairs

- Pairs
  - Leads – after delivery of their third and fourth bowls
  - Skips – after delivery of their second, third, and fourth bowls

Warm Up: Teams that have not played due to a bye or forfeit shall be permitted to warm up prior to playing a game

Groundsheets: The Controlling Body can make the decision to use groundsheets at any time.

Smoking: Smoking or vaping is prohibited on any green. Leaving the green to smoke or vape during a game is not permitted.

Electronic devices: The use of personal electronic and communication devices will not be permitted during a game without the express prior permission of the Controlling Body. Violations will be considered a violation of rink possession and may result in forfeiture. Law 41.7 is not superseded.

Laws: All games will be played in line with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, Crystal Mark, 4<sup>th</sup> edition.

## 2024 Central Division Open Conditions of Play

**Alterations:** The Controlling Body reserves the right to alter any of the conditions if that alteration is essential to successfully carry out or finish the event. When play is interrupted or cannot be completed due to inclement weather or local conditions, the Controlling Body may amend the format and length of games to achieve a result or postpone the event where an outcome cannot be achieved.

**Prizes and awards:** The number of entries will determine the amount of prize money. The allocation of prize money will be posted at the venue.

### Team Event

Prizes will at least be awarded to the first and second place teams.

### Potlicker Pairs

Prizes will at least be awarded to the first and second place teams in the championship flight and first place team in the 1<sup>st</sup> flight. If entries support additional flights, the first place teams will also be awarded prizes.

**Schedule:** This is a possible daily schedule for each event.

### Day 1

8:00 am – Check In,  
Morning Refreshment  
8:30 am – Draw and  
Announcements  
8:50 am – Trial Ends  
9:00 am – Game 1  
11:30 am – Lunch  
12:30 pm – Game 2  
3:00 pm – Game 3

### Day 2

8:30 am – Morning  
Refreshment and  
Announcements  
8:50 am – Trial Ends  
9:00 am – Game 4  
11:30 am – Lunch  
12:30 pm – Game 5  
3:00 pm – Game 6  
5:30 pm – Prizes Awarded

**Social:** We welcome all players to a reception/cocktail party on Friday, August 2 at 5:30 pm at the clubhouse. (This is included with your registration fee.)

We will also have a 50/50 raffle for your games of chance pleasure!

