Podium Pathway Selection Policy

Last updated November 2026

Selection Policy

1. INTRODUCTION:

1.1 This is the selection policy for the Bowls Scotland (BS) Podium Pathways.

1.2 The objective of the BS Podium Pathway is to deliver medal success at all major international competitions and development of future medal potential.

1.3 BS is committed to a fair and appropriate implementation of its selection policy.

1.4 The objective of this policy is to outline the criteria and process on how athletes are identified and selected to the Performance Pathway and events selection.

1.5 BS is committed to selecting those athletes best qualified to support the goals and objectives of our Performance Pathway as determined by the selection criteria described below.

1.6 The policy may be amended from time to time subject to changes in BS performance structure and to reflect the increasing demands of Bowls at the highest international level.

2. ELIGIBILITY:

2.1 All players wishing to be considered by Bowls Scotland (BS) will need to satisfy the eligibility and performance criteria set out below.

2.2 Be eligible to represent Bowls Scotland/ Team Scotland under the International Representation rules of the World Bowls /Commonwealth Games Federation/Commonwealth Games Scotland.

2.3 Not currently disqualified or suspended under the rules of Bowls Scotland /World Bowls and must have acted in a manner compliant with the BS code of conduct and other policies for a period of at least 1 year.

2.4 Be a member of an affiliated Bowls Scotland club.

2.5 Compliant with UK Anti Doping and World Anti Doping Agency Policies.

2.6 Sign and return a BS Player Agreement on selection to the Performance Squadand remain compliant with BS Code of Conduct and other relevant policies.

2.7 Be available for the specified assessment days, squad camps and competition dates.

3. SELECTION PROCESS:

3.1 Athletes wishing to be considered for selection to the Performance Pathway should identify themselves to BS through the Expression of Interest Form outlined in Appendix A.

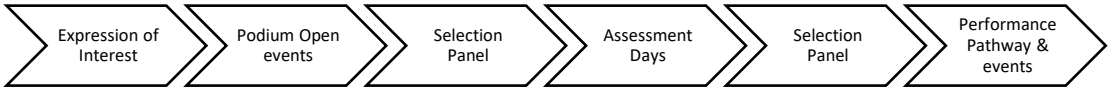
3.2 Expressions of Interest must be submitted annually within the advertised window.

3.3 We have the right to remove any players at any stage throughout the process if they are found not to meet the eligibility criteria.

3.4 Podium Open event entry will be released only to those who expressed interest. Calendar of events can be found on the website.

3.5 Participation within the Podium events is required.

3.6 The Selection Panel (SP) will meet as required throughout the process to review and assess players for National Team Programme and event selection based on section 4 of the Policy.



3.7 The Selection Panel will be made up of at least 3 of the following: Head of High Performance, Pathway lead, Pathway Coach(es), nominated BS support coaches or selectors nominated by BS.

3.8 Selection to the Performance Pathway is for a period until the conclusion of the following annual selection process.

3.9 Players can access feedback once selection phase is complete.

4. CRITERIA: Selection is based on a combination of:

4.1 Objective and subjective performance measures gathered at podium events, assessment days, pathway days and performance centre sessions.

4.2 Performances and results at recent competitions.

4.3 Experience and International results on relevant playing surfaces (including indoor competitions).

4.4 Consistency in competition form and performance readiness.

4.5 Assessment of team dynamics and position specific criteria in line with BS What It Takes to Win (WITTW) model.

4.6 Assessment of long-term player potential and development.

4.7 Players who demonstrate positive performance attitudes and behaviours in line with BS player agreement within and out with the competition environment.

5. NATIONAL TEAM EVENT SPECIFIC CRITERIA:

5.1 In some cases, BS reserves the right to introduce overriding selection criteria, which are customised to the type of event for which selection takes place, or which may be governed by associations other than BS.

5.2 Examples of these cases may include major events (e.g., Commonwealth Games, World Championships, European Championships), where the selection results may have a significant weighting on specific performance minimum potentials, such as a podium finish.

5.3 Development events where selection may have a significant weighting on athlete development and/or the need to provide international exposure to a broader group of athletes.

6. EXCEPTIONS AND EXEMPTIONS:

6.1 Conditional Selection: Conditional selection of an athlete may be made based on circumstances where the athlete is provided an extension to meet the required selection criteria. Any such circumstance shall be reviewed and granted by the selection panel at its sole discretion.

6.2 Injury or Illness: An athlete who is eligible to be considered for selection, but who is injured or ill to the extent that he or she cannot fulfil the selection criteria may nonetheless be selected at the discretion of the SP. In exercising such discretion, the SP may require that the athlete supply a specialist diagnosis and prognosis for recovery.

6.3 Extenuating Circumstances: These may include any number of circumstances and prohibitive causes by which a player is unable to meet the requirements in this selection policy within the defined timelines. Based on the circumstances and the discretion of the Selection Panel, the athlete may still be eligible for the Performance Pathway and events selection.

6.4 Should circumstances arise that would prevent the BS selection criteria, as described in this document, from being applied, the Head of High-Performance reserves the right to determine alternate criteria. Should this occur, all athletes shall be notified of changes in a timely manner.

7. DESELECTION:

7.1 Players can be deselected from the Performance Pathway or events if they no longer meet the eligibility criteria and breach any BS byelaws and/or policies.

7.2 Breaches the requirements outlined in the BS code of conduct and/or their Athlete Agreement.

7.3 Has failed to sustain performance and/or attitude to a satisfactory level.

7.4 By reason of illness or injury, is unable to perform to the required standard in the opinion of the SP (after having received advice from a medical practitioner).

8. APPEALS:

8.1 The Bowls Scotland appeals procedure for selection can be found on the website.

9. OTHER RELEVANT POINTS TO NOTE:

9.1 Achieving assessment criteria for the BS Podium Pathway as set out in the selection policy only means that the player could be considered for the Performance Pathway and event selection; it does not give the player absolute right to inclusion.

9.2 Irrespective of previous performances, players will only be considered for selection if they are progressing towards or continuing to achieve the appropriate levels of performance in line with the objectives of the Pathway.

For any queries or further questions on Bowls Scotland selection Policy please contact.

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APPENDIX A

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM

Completed Expression of Interest form must be returned for access to the Performance Pathway.

Any questions please direct them to: info@bowlsscotland.com

Or Via post**:** Bowls Scotland | National Centre for Bowling | Hunters Avenue | Ayr | KA8 9AL

Name:			
Address:			
Email:		**Gender:**	
Phone:		**Date of Birth:**	

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Affiliated Club:						
Disability:	**Yes**			**No**		
Classification:	**Yes**			**No**		
Classification (if known)						

BS Expression of Interest: High Performance Programme: I acknowledge the following to be true at the time of signing this form, by initialing in the box beside each statement:	**Initial**
a) I am a Scottish Citizen or comply with the eligibility criteria.	☐
b) I declare that I am a member and in good standing with a Bowls Scotland affiliated club.	☐
c) I acknowledge that I have read and agree to comply with the Bowls Scotland Selection Policy - https://www.bowlsscotland.com/media/4434/2023-11-17-bowls-scotland-selection-policy.pdf	☐
d) I acknowledge that I have read and agree to comply with the current WADA Anti-Doping Program available at https://www.wada-ama.org/en/what-we-do/world-anti-doping-code	☐
e) I have read and agree to comply with the BS Code of Conduct available at https://www.bowlsscotland.com/media/4435/2023-11-17-bowls-scotland-player-code-of- conduct.pdf	☐
f) I understand that I will be required to sign the BS Player Agreement and to consent to be bound by the terms of that agreement.	☐
g) I understand that there is a year-round training and performance commitment required of all members of the High- Performance Programme and if selected I will adhere to the commitments as outlined by the National Coaching Staff.	☐
h) I consent to Bowls Scotland sharing my name and relevant contact details with those involved in the Performance Podium Pathway	☐

Signed: Date: