

State Umpires Committee

Keeping things Crystal Clear



With the deletion of Law 37.1.3 and Law 37.1.5.3, which took effect on the 25th May 2023, two other laws have resulted in questions being emailed to the State Umpires Committee, those laws being, Law 29.1.4 (new law) and Law 29.4.2. Both these laws are very similar in their wording.

1. Law 29.1.4

If a bowl has been played by each team or player in Singles before the players discover that one of them has played out of turn, play in that end must continue in that order. Law 29.1.4 comes under Law 29.1.1 Playing out of turn. If a bowl has been played by each team or player in Singles before it is discovered that one of them has played out of turn, then play in that end must continue in that order.

In the past Law 29.1.2. & 29.1.3 were an option depending on the circumstances.

Laws 29.1.2 & 29.1.3 can only be used if the mistake is found once the bowl played out of turn has come to rest and the next bowl has not been

delivered.

If the circumstances have occurred as per Law 29.1.4 then Laws 29.1.2 & 29.1.3 must not be used.

2. Law 29.4.2

If a bowl has been played by each team before the players discover that one of them has failed to play a bowl in the proper order, that player will lose the right to play the bowl. Law 29.4.2 comes under Law 29.4.1 Failing to play. If a bowl has been played by each team before they discover that one of the team has failed to play a bowl, then that player forfeits the right to play that bowl. This law refers to team games, Pairs, Triples & Fours. And it is not a new law.

An occurrence that has become noticeable over the past 12 to 24 months is the reluctance of umpires to make themselves aware of the Bowls NSW Conditions of Play. Umpires must make themselves aware of the contents of the current Bowls NSW Conditions of Play, as you may be required act on or make a ruling on a section of the COPs during a game. For example:

General Conditions for all Events:

- Section 24. Bowls Stickers/ Adhesive Markings.
- Section 27. Inclement Weather.
- Section 29. Personal Electronic Devices.
- Section 31. Coaching.
- Section 32. Delaying Play.
- Section 33. Restricting Movement of Players.
- Section 35. Instantaneous Penalties.

Apart from the General Conditions for All Events, there are a number of COPs specific to State controlled events, if you have been appointed to officiate at one of those events ensure you read the COPs for that event.

Enjoy your umpiring, next month there will be a return to the Q&A segment.

Should you have a question of law, please do not hesitate to forward you question/s to:
umpires@bowlsnsw.com.au

