

# Open Tournament Policy: Four-Person Team Format

## General Information

- Support inclusivity for aging members or those managing health limitations
- Extend opportunities for participation while reducing physical strain
- Maintain fairness and preserve the competitive integrity of Open Tournaments
- Designed for Triples format tournaments with an optional fourth player

## Four-Person Teams Format

- Teams register with **four players**, three active and one substitute
- Substitutions are permitted in cases of injury, illness, or to reduce player fatigue
- Each team may make **one substitution per game** (except in the case of injury, where OLBA rules apply)
- Once substituted, a player must remain in the spectator area and is not permitted to coach or direct play
- Substitutions must be made between ends, unless in the case of sudden injury or sudden illness, to minimize disruption to the game
- Any bowler who drops out because of sudden illness or injury will not be permitted to re-enter the tournament.

## Guidelines

- When a substitution is made, the substitute will enter the game in the **Lead position**, with all other players moving up one position. For example, if the Skip sits out, the next game they would resume play as **Lead**
- In the case of illness or injury, a **direct substitution** may be made for the affected position without requiring all players to move up
- Teams are responsible for managing fair player rotation
- If a player withdraws from the tournament entirely, the substitute may complete all remaining games

## Fees and Prize Structure

Unless otherwise discussed and determined by the team members in advance of the tournament

- All four players contribute equally to the team entry fee
- Prize money is divided equally among all four players, regardless of number of games played

## **Novice and Mixed Team Requirements**

- Where tournaments require a **novice player**, there must be a novice on the greens for the full tournament
- In the event of a medical emergency or injury, the novice can only be substituted with another novice.
- For **Mixed Triples**, gender balance must be preserved:
  - There must be a female and a male on the greens for the full tournament
  - If two men and one woman are registered, the woman must play even if the fourth player is also male
  - Substitutions must not eliminate required gender representation