



Bowls Alberta



Youth Program and Support Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to assist youth, their parents, and their coaches, in understanding the provincial competitions held for youth and the guidelines around those events. It also gives information regarding the Canadian Youth Championships and the procedures and guidelines for attending that event.

Policy Points

1. On the same weekend, if registration numbers warrant, Bowls Alberta (BA) will hold the Alberta U18 Singles Championships for girls and boys (ages 12 - U18) and the Alberta U25 Singles Championships for women and men (ages 18 - U25). Exact age restrictions will be the same as those for the Canadian Youth Championships as found in their Conditions of Play. These competitions fall under the direction of the Bowls Program Committee and the *BA Conditions of Play*.
2. A parent or legal guardian must sign and submit to the BA office, a *Junior Release Form* for any player under the age of 18 participating in a sanctioned provincial event. The *Junior Release Form* can be found on the BA website and it must be submitted before the event.
3. A parent, chaperone, or appointed coach must accompany any player under the age of 18 participating in a sanctioned provincial event.
4. The winners and the runners-up of the Alberta U18 Singles Championships and the Alberta U25 Singles Championships may be invited to represent Alberta at the Canadian Youth Championships, if the players are in good standing at an affiliated club and have demonstrated a skill level that would allow them to enjoy and compete at the national event *and* have demonstrated a commitment to development as a player through participation in BA sanctioned events and youth training camps. Expenses for these players will be covered as set out in the policies of BA. For details of funding support see the *Alberta Player Support Policy*.
5. If there is only one entry in any section of Alberta U18 or U25 Singles Championships, that individual, if they are in good standing at an affiliated club, have demonstrated a skill level that would allow them to enjoy and compete at the national event, *and* have demonstrated a commitment to development as a player through participation in BA sanctioned events and youth training camps, may request assistance to attend the Canadian Youth Championships as set forth in the *Alberta Player Support Policy*.
6. The Canadian Youth Championships is an Open event and therefore all provincial U18 and U25 bowlers may register to attend the event if they meet the Bowls Canada Boulingrin Conditions of Play.

7. Players under 18 years of age, or deemed minors in the Canadian Championship host province, that represent Alberta at the Canadian Youth Championships, must always be sent with a chaperone as laid out by the Conditions of Play of Bowls Canada Bowling.
8. Adults that accompany Alberta players under 18 years of age, or deemed minors in the host province, to Provincial or National events must adhere to the *BA Volunteer Screening Policy*. An exception to this is when the chaperone is a parent or close relative and is not chaperoning any other players.
9. Bowls Alberta will arrange for a coach and team manager of opposite genders to accompany all minors as we are committed to following the *Rule of Two* in accordance with our pledge to comply with the [Responsible Coaching Movement](#).
10. Youth that represent AB at a Canadian Championship must arrange picking up an AB team uniform (shirt and jacket) from the Bowls AB office. Youth have the option of loaning or purchasing two shirts and a jacket. Youth may also purchase a Bowls AB hoodie to wear; contact the office for information on how to order a hoodie. Refer to the *BA Uniform Policy* to see when the hoodie can be worn instead of the BA team jacket and for other regulations regarding wearing the team uniform at a Canadian Championship.