

Bowls in NSW – Q&A on Unification Voting Process – Last Updated 3rd May 2021

The purpose of this document is to provide transparent communication between Women's Bowls NSW (WBNSW), Bowls NSW (BNSW) and the NSW bowls community throughout the unification process.

The following questions were recently provided by members through their written submissions to the unification email and have been answered below. These questions and answers relate specifically to the upcoming vote on unification.

The Voting Process

Q1: Who do we send our votes to?

A1: **WBNSW** - Once your Club has been registered to vote, an email will be sent to the nominated contact with a unique code and link to the online voting portal. Clubs will be required to login to this portal using their unique code and lodge their vote electronically.

A1: **BNSW** - Once your Club has held its Special General Meeting to consider the two resolutions, Clubs will then email their results to their Zone Secretary.

Q2: Are the number of for/against votes required to be recorded and/or submitted?

A2: **WBNSW** & **BNSW** - The exact number is not required to be lodged, but our recommendation would be to record the numbers in your meeting minutes.

Q3. Can you please clarify what percentage of the vote is required from each club?

A3. **WBNSW** & **BNSW** - The percentage required to determine a **Club's** vote is a MAJORITY of votes cast by members (i.e., Over 50% or more) for both resolutions.

Q4. With the voting process, can we have a show of hands or do we need to issue members with a paper vote for the ballot box?

A4. **WBNSW** & **BNSW** - Please refer to your club constitution. In general, a show of hands is sufficient unless a poll is demanded, in which case a ballot paper has been provided in the Member Information and Voting Pack (MIVP) for your convenience.

Q5. Can members submit a proxy vote for their Club? Is there an opportunity for people to do an absentee vote?

A5. **WBNSW** & **BNSW** - Please refer to your club constitution, however if you have the WBNSW Club Constitution Template then no postal, electronic and proxy voting is permitted at any General Meeting.

Q6. What is the preferred wording of the Resolution for the Unification Vote at the Special General Meeting?

A6. Below is the wording for the vote:

WBNSW

General Meeting – Special Resolution**

THAT the constitution of the New South Wales Women's Bowling Association Inc be amended and replaced with the Constitution attached to this notice and marked with the letter "A".

General Meeting – Ordinary Resolution

If the special resolution is approved:

THAT the Boards of WBNSW and the New Bowls Entity be authorised to take all necessary steps to effect the above Resolutions.

BNSW

General Meeting – Special Resolution**

THAT the constitution of the Royal New South Wales Bowling Association Limited be amended and replaced with the Constitution attached to this notice and marked with the letter "A".

General Meeting – Ordinary Resolution

If the special resolution is approved:

THAT the Boards of BNSW and the New Bowls Entity be authorised to take all necessary steps to effect the above Resolutions.

(**Please note that while the Resolution "a" is moved as a 'Special Resolution' at State Level for both WBNSW and BNSW, to determine the Club's vote and the Zone's vote only a MAJORITY (50% or more) of votes cast is required.)

Q7. What is the purpose of the Special General Meeting (SGM) for WBNSW and BNSW?

A7. **WBNSW** - Under our existing Constitutions, WBNSW are required to hold a SGM to alter the Constitution by Special Resolution.

In the past, when delegates have been required to attend and vote in person at SGMs, typical attendance has just been enough to get a quorum (40-50 Clubs).

In this instance, we have provided ALL Member Clubs with the opportunity to be involved in this important vote for the future of the sport by implementing electronic voting prior to the meeting with the Returning Officer, rather than having to be present to vote.

The Notice of SGM for WBNSW can be viewed by [CLICKING HERE](#)

If your club delegate would like to attend the WBNSW SGM please register your interest by emailing communications@womensbowlsnsw.org

A7. **BNSW** - Under our existing Constitutions, BNSW are required to hold a SGM to alter the Constitution by Special Resolution.

The voting members of BNSW in General Meeting are the Directors and State Councillors who cast the majority vote of Clubs within their respective Zone. These votes will be cast electronically with the Returning Officer prior to the SGM.

The Notice of SGM for BNSW can be viewed by [CLICKING HERE](#)

If your club delegate would like to attend the BNSW SGM please register your interest by emailing enquiries@bowlsnsw.com.au

Q8. What happens with women that are affiliated with Bowls NSW and Women's Bowls NSW when voting? Do they get to vote at both meetings?

A8. **WBNSW** & **BNSW** - If a female member is registered with both Bowls NSW and Women's Bowls NSW, then they are entitled to vote at both General Meetings of your 'men's' and 'women's' sub-clubs as they are two separate votes (one for each Association).

**As a reminder, we welcome any questions you may have throughout this process.
Questions can be submitted to unification@bowlsnsw.com.au.**