



**NATAL INLAND
BOWLING ASSOCIATION**

*Affiliated to Bowls South Africa
Founded 1997*

Cell: 083 231 0381

Website: www.nibabowling.co.za

E-mail: admin@nibabowling.co.za

Physical Address: 381 Boshoff Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201

**NIBA CIRCULAR 34 OF 2026
DISTRICT COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION AND PROPOSED BY-LAW
AMENDMENT: NOVICE SINGLES ELIGIBILITY**

The following matter was discussed at the Natal Inland Bowling Association Council Meeting held on Saturday, 20 June 2026, regarding the interpretation and development of Novice Bowlers within the district.

It is important to note that District Council does not prescribe how individual clubs must manage their internal Novice status. However, Council strongly recommends that clubs support the development of Novice bowlers by allowing them to complete a full three-year Novice period, regardless of competition success during that period.

Proposed By-Law Amendment: Novice Singles Championship:

The following amendment is to be included under Section 14.9 of the NIBA By-Laws:

14.9 Novices Singles Championship: Men and Women

14.9.1

This competition is open to a bona fide member of a club affiliated to Bowls South Africa.

A player's first year of Novice status commences on the date they first register as a bowler with any National Bowling Association. From that date, the player is eligible to compete in the next three (3) consecutive annual NIBA Novice Singles Championships, provided they otherwise meet the conditions of entry. A player's Novice eligibility is therefore limited to three consecutive years from their initial registration, commencing in their year of registration. This period runs consecutively and may not be deferred, interrupted, or extended. Winning a Club, District, Provincial, or National Singles Championship during this three-year Novice period does not affect a player's eligibility to compete in the NIBA Novice Singles Championship. The only exception is that a player who has won the NIBA District Novice Singles Championship shall not be eligible to compete for that title again.



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Recommendation to Clubs

Clubs are encouraged to apply this principle consistently to ensure Novice bowlers are given fair and meaningful development opportunities over their full Novice cycle.

Kind regards

Janet Bevis

SECRETARY

1 July 2026

cc Executive & Clubs