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# CIRCULAR

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**No:** 06/2019  
**Date:** 21 May 2019  
**To:** Zones, Districts & Clubs  
**Re:** Inter Zone and City v Country Events - Calendar Revamp

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Bowls NSW has also announced there will be changes to the dates traditionally used for the Inter-Zone Sides Championship and City v Country Series, ensuring the events remain as the premier selection trials to be selected in the NSW Blues Squads.

The review of the calendar for Bowls NSW was made necessary after Bowls Australia announced that a host of National Events (including the Australian Sides Championship (Alley Shield), Australian Senior Sides Championships, Australian Junior Championships, Champion of Champions and National Championships) will be held in one region in October 2020.

With an early August deadline for entries to The Nationals, Bowls NSW must have their State Championships completed and Representative Sides selected by this date.

This shift of the Australian Sides to October from its customary April timeslot has meant a reallocation to the timeline for selection;

The Inter-Zone Sides Championship will now be played in March.

The Inter-Zone will retain its Friday-Saturday-Sunday but will now immediately follow the Senior Inter-Zone Sides Championship, to be played Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday. Both events will be played in the same regional area and may use the same venue clubs.

The City Country Series is set to welcome new players to the fold with changes to reflect the representative pathways; following the Inter-Zone festival, Bowls NSW will then name the players to compete in the City Country Series, which for 2020 will see the Seniors (60+ years) and Over 40s join the Open, Under 25 and Under 18 contingents for the series.

Following the City v Country Series, The Keno NSW Blues, Keno NSW Under 25, Keno NSW Senior and the NSW Over 40s squads will be announced.

The NSW Junior Blues Squads, supported by Cabramatta Bowling Club, will also be announced.

It is proposed that the Keno NSW Blues, Keno NSW Senior Blues, NSW Over 40s and NSW Reserve State Side will then play a round robin series at Soldiers Point Bowling Club as a lead-in to the Keno NSW Blues and Keno NSW Senior State Sides competing in the Nationals.

With the change to the timetable, Bowls NSW has made the tough decision that the events that were originally scheduled for September (Inter-Zone) and November (City-Country) 2019 will not be played.

While players look forward to the opportunity to compete at these events, holding them in September and November in 2019 would make them extraneous as part of the selection pathway.

It was also seen as the most rational and prudent move, considering the costs shouldered by not only the State and Zone Associations but also the players in attending the events twice in the same fiscal year.

Grandviews and Olds Park BCs, as the clubs who were to host the Inter-Zone in 2019 have been offered first option to host the Inter-Zone festival in 2020.

David Ellis  
Head of Sport & Operations – Bowls NSW