1. These Rules will apply for the conduct and control of the Cole Cup State Team Challenge and related matters.

2. The Cole Cup Challenge (formally known as The Oakford National State Team Challenge and renamed in honour of Mr Barry Cole) was established in response to the wishes of bowlers with disabilities and their carers following the 8th National Tenpin Bowling Championships for People with a disability held in Adelaide, June 1996.

3. **NAME**

The Tournament will be known as the Cole Cup State Team Challenge.

4. **PURPOSE**

   a) The purpose of the Cole Cup Challenge is to determine annually the best State/Territory representative team of tenpin bowlers, each consisting of five players per team.

   b) To foster, develop and advance a spirit of good sportsmanship and fellowship, to promote and maintain a good relationship amongst the representative teams and to advance their mutual interest in relation to bowling generally.

5. **STATES/TERRITORIES TO BE REPRESENTED**

Participation in the Cole Cup Challenge will be limited to one team from the following States and Territories:-

   a) New South Wales
   b) Victoria
   c) Queensland
   d) South Australia
   e) Western Australia
   f) Tasmania
   g) Australian Capital Territory
   h) Northern Territory
6. **ELIGIBILITY – TEAM MEMBER**

Each person:

a) Must be a financial member of Tenpin Bowling Australia in good standing.

b) Must be capable of conducting themselves in such a manner so as not to reflect discredit on TBA, the State/Territory they are representing or tenpin bowling.

c) Must have qualified for team membership in accordance with the conditions set down by the State/Territory committee in charge of team selection.

d) Must meet the TBA criteria of a Bowler with a Disability except for managers, coaches and support personnel.

Each competitor:

a) Must have bowled a minimum of 24 games in a league in a TBA registered centre or must apply for an average from the tournament director.

b) Must meet the TBA criteria of a Bowler with a Disability.

c) Must have submitted an All Events entry in the Championship and have completed at least one squad of the All Events entry i.e. singles, doubles or team event prior to participation in the National Disabilities’ Cole Cup State Team Challenge. No refund of entry fees shall be provided if an athlete fails to complete any of the remaining squads.

d) Average date to be used is as at 31st December the previous calendar year.

Coaches:

As a minimum a State/Territory coach must have successfully completed either the USBC level 1 or Bronze program or must be an accredited level 1 coach under TBA’s previous Coaching Accreditation Scheme.

Managers:

All applicants for the position of manager of a State/Territory Team must be a TBA accredited manager.

Selectors:

Parents or relatives (including de facto) of bowlers who have an application for team selection will not be permitted to serve in any way whatsoever on a selection committee for the Disability State Team Challenge, nor will it be acceptable for them to exercise any degree of influence on any such committee or member of the committee.
7. **SELECTION OF TEAMS**

   a) Teams will be selected by the appropriate disabilities committee of their respective State/Territory Association. The selection criteria and eligibility of bowlers is the sole responsibility of the above mentioned committee.

   b) The roster of players for each team in the Cole Cup Challenge may not exceed eight (8) players. The actual playing strength/line-up for any match will be five (5) players drawn from the roster submitted, except in cases of emergency as described and provided for in Rule 13(d).

   c) All players must participate in at least 1 round, except in cases of emergency.

   d) Each State/Territory Disability Committee must advise the tournament director by the 3rd Friday in May of the names and details of their team members. Failure to provide this information by the prescribed time may result in a forfeit by that State/Territory.

8. **BOWLING FEES**

   The Tournament Committee will pay for the bowling fees (lineage) associated with the Cole Cup Challenge unless otherwise notified. In the event the Tournament Committee is unable to pay these fees each State/Territory will be responsible. Each State/Territory will be notified if they are required to pay the lineage costs by 28th February of each year of the National Championship.

9. **VENUE**

   The annual Cole Cup Challenge will be conducted in the principal centre used for the conduct of the National Tenpin Bowling Championship for People with a disability, at the time and date nominated in the entry form for the national championship.

10. **CONTROL OF MATCHES**

    The tournament director will be responsible for all tournament preparations, and conduct the matches whilst in progress. The appointed tournament director may appoint/engage such assistance as deemed necessary to ensure the successful conduct of the tournament.

11. **ENTERING AVERAGES**

    The rules governing the entering average for a team member will be the same as stipulated by the National Tenpin Bowling Championship for People with a disability rules and regulations.
12. **HANDICAP SYSTEM**

A handicap system of 100% of 200 will be applied to all team members during all matches.

13. **FORMAT FOR MATCHES**

a) Teams will be opposed against each other for one complete round of matches over such time as may be considered necessary, according to the number of participating teams.

b) Each match will be one full team game, and in the event of two or more teams not being represented, the number of matches will be determined by the tournament director.

c) In the event that an odd number of States/Territories are represented, the team scheduled to play the bye will not bowl for that round and will receive no points.

d) In the event that one or more of the nominated team members are unable to bowl, due to an emergency occurrence prior to the commencement of, or during the actual tournament, such that five (5) players are not available to play, the team will be filled by such eligible bowlers as are necessary, provided that their inclusion is approved by the disabilities committee and/or the tournament director. The decision as to what constitutes an emergency will be determined by the disabilities committee and/or the tournament director.

e) The team scheduled to play on the left lane of the pair will be obliged to post their order of players first, thus enabling the team scheduled on the right lane to match their players against the order posted by their opponents.

14. **POINTS SYSTEM**

Points will be awarded as follows:

a) Each team member will be matched against the opposing team member in the corresponding position in the line-up and the bowler achieving the highest total pinfall with handicap for the game will win one (1) point for the team. In the event of an equal game score, the point will be equally shared.

b) The team’s total pinfall with handicap will be compared with the total pinfall with handicap of the opposing team and two (2) points will be awarded to the team with the highest total pinfall with handicap.

c) At the conclusion of all rounds, the team with the highest number of points will be declared the Cole Cup Challenge Champion for the year.

d) In the event of two or more teams having the same number of points, the team with the highest pinfall with handicap will be declared the winner.
15. **COLE CUP CHALLENGE**

a) The Cole Cup Challenge will be presented to the Captain of the winning team immediately after the contest. Each team member in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed team will receive a memento, inscribed to commemorate the team’s achievement.

b) The Cole Cup Challenge is a perpetual trophy and will remain in the custody of the Champion State/Territory to be displayed in the various bowling centres and offices throughout the State/Territory until the commencement of the next tournament.

16. **OTHER MATTERS**

a) Any other matters that may arise during the course of the tournament that are not covered in the above mentioned rules and regulations will be resolved by the tournament director as deemed appropriate.

b) All members of the State teams including bowlers, coaching staff, management and support staff are to refrain from the consuming alcoholic beverages during the tournament. Any person found under the influence of alcohol or consuming alcohol during the tournament will be withdrawn from the competition immediately.