

BOWLS ETIQUETTE

If we all understand and comply with a common code of good behaviour the result is a happy club of cheerful people having a good time. With the introduction of several new members to the club recently, now would seem to be a good time to remind ourselves how we are expected to behave.

We should **be proud of our club** and do nothing to bring it into disrepute.

We should all play our part in the smooth and successful running of the club.

Help the committee do their job when you can or have something to offer. Remember that they give freely of their time to run the club for the benefit of all. Remember that your club survives on the subscriptions and match fees you pay and the money you and your visitors spend on the raffle.

Support your club and in return you will have many years of enjoyment playing the wonderful game of bowls.



Follow the club dress code for matches and casual play.

Be punctual for matches – 2.30pm start means that the game starts then and you should attempt to arrive some 20 minutes or so at least before the game to allow time for changing. Also this will alleviate any anxiety the captain may be feeling as to whether he/she has a full team or not.

At the **start of the game** skips should introduce their team to their opponents.

Make a point of trying to remember your opponent's name and use it freely to create a friendly atmosphere.



During the game when your opponent is on the mat do nothing to distract them. Above all keep quiet and don't carry on a conversation behind the mat.

Wait until the game is over and socialize in the pavilion or over the tea and biscuits. Stand at least a metre behind the mat and slightly to the side.

BOWLS ETIQUETTE

Make sure all the bowls are also behind the mat in a safe place to avoid the bowler stepping back and having an accident.

Concentrate on your own game so that you know what is happening and be ready to bowl when it is your turn.

Listen to your skip's instructions and do your best to follow them even if you don't understand why he/she is calling for a particular shot.

When **standing at the head** do nothing to distract the bowler on the mat.

Stand behind the head and to one side, not directly behind the jack.

Keep still and don't wave your hands about or fidget and chat to people on the next rink. Concentrate on what is happening on your rink and be ready to stop wayward bowls from going on to the next rink.

Be ready to take evasive action if a firing shot is played.



Let the No.3 do his/her job in deciding the outcome of the end and should not interfere.

Bowls is an enjoyable game usually devoid of any aggravation.

We should be courteous to our visitors acting as good hosts.

If your opponent bowls a good bowl acknowledge it in some way.

If you have a lucky bowl, acknowledge it. Similarly, don't react badly when your opponent has a lucky result.

Remain composed and don't let it affect your game or demeanour.