

WEST PENNANT MENS BOWLING CLUB SUGGESTIONS AND ETIQUETTE FOR ENJOYING THE GAME

Bowls is a friendly game. Here are a few tips which may help you, and those with whom you play, enjoy the game to the utmost:

- All bowlers should have an understanding of the **LAWS OF THE SPORT OF BOWLS**. Copies are available from the Secretary.
- Bowls is a friendly sport and should be played in a good spirit (so be a good sport). Remember that your attitude can often be a reflection on the Club.
- Always conform to correct attire for play.
 - Club shirts are essential for play in Pennants competitions and Association events such as Club Championships (these shirts are available from the club).
 - Club shirts, cream or white shirts can be worn for social play.
 - Mufti can be worn when “rolling up” or when Conditions of Play allow.
 - No Mufti allowed if players on the green are in regular bowling uniform.
- Rolling up is encouraged, but must not be undertaken on a green where there is regular play in progress or if there is a sign on the notice board such as “**No play on green No. 1** as it has been sprayed”.
- Only bowling club members or members of the Royal and their guests may roll up.
- Be punctual for all games. Cards are called 15 minutes before play commences.
- Turn off mobile phones and pagers before the game.
- The greens are our most valuable asset.
 - Do not drop bowls on the green or stand on the edges of the green.
 - Step sideways when getting on or off the green, keep your feet at least 150cm (6 inches) away from the plinth.
 - NEVER put your foot into or near the ditch when retrieving bowls from the ditch. Take care to protect and conserve the greens at all times.
- Players of each team not in the act of delivering a bowl or in control of the head, should stand a minimum of 1 metre behind the mat or clear of the head behind the jack, as the case may be, or on the bank.
- At the finish of an end, bowlers not involved in measuring must stay away from the head until the measurements have been made and the head declared.
- Immediately the end has been declared, the lead of the team which has won an end should, (unless the skip has ordered that the mat be given to the opponent):
 - place the mat ready to deliver the jack, and
 - assist the other bowlers at the head in moving the bowls back behind the mat. Always take care to move the bowls so as not to scuff the green.
- Don't delay the game. Be ready to play when it is your turn.

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- Before delivering a bowl, look to see if the skip wants a particular shot.
- Don't argue with the skip on the shot to play.
- Give full support to the skip and other members of your team by picking up their bowl and handing to the players ready to bowl.
- Keep still and silent whilst other members of your team, or your opponents, are on the mat.
- If you are at the head, don't wander around or move about the head when a player is about to deliver a bowl, and particularly do not stand:
 - on the centre line, or
 - in line with a boundary peg.
- Don't offer directions to the skip unless the position in the head has changed since he has left it.
- If you are in control of the head, make sure you know which bowls belong to your team.
- Applaud good shots by both your own team and your opponents – it displays good sportsmanship and makes for a pleasant game.
- Always watch the play. Take an interest without interfering.
- Play always for the team and not for individual success.
- When watching a match always observe strict neutrality. Advice or criticism must not be given.
- Advise the Match Committee, Bowls Coordinator, your skip (or opponent in singles) if you are unable to keep an appointment for any championship game.
- Don't develop mannerisms which indicate displeasure at indifferent play by your team members (such as a skip sitting on the seat). Remember no-one deliberately puts down a bad bowl.
- Do not stray onto an adjoining rink after delivering a bowl.
- Don't follow a bowl up the rink further than the rules allow.
- You must return to a position behind the mat by the time your bowl stops.
- If your opponent has possession of the mat, do not walk past the mat when changing ends until your opponent's bowl has come to rest.
- When changing ends, walk as a group to the other end without delay, staying as close as possible to the centre line of your rink, so that you do not interfere with play on adjoining rinks.
- If an end is declared dead and the game restarts at the other end carry the bowls back to the start, don't roll them
- Don't have excuses for bad play, and readily accept praise for success.
- Don't dispute the umpire's decision.
- If the umpire is called to make a measurement, please stand well back, preferably on the bank.
- At the end of a match, it is expected that the leads will put the mats and jack away.
- Don't abuse the privileges of the Club.

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- Don't wear your hat in the Club.
- If time permits, stay and have a drink with your team mates and opponents.

Finally, enjoy the game and the fellowship