



# Maiden Erleigh Bowling Club

## BOWLS ETIQUETTE

Bowls etiquette is based on the principal of courtesy and good sportsmanship.

**Please note that smoking, vaping and the use of e-cigarettes is not allowed on the premises of the club beyond the inner car park and that mobile phones should be turned off or at least muted around the green and not used when a match is underway.**

### Before the game:

- ⤴ Check you know the correct dress code for the game
- ⤴ Make sure you know the starting time of the game and arrive in sufficient time to be ready to play
- ⤴ In a home game always arrive in time to welcome your guests and to help with putting out the equipment (preferably at least 30 mins before the start of the match)
- ⤴ On arrival report promptly to your captain or event organiser

### At any time **please do not:**

- ⤴ Drop your bowls on the green
- ⤴ Sit on the banking nor rest your feet on the edge of the green
- ⤴ Drop litter in the ditches, please use the receptacles provided
- ⤴ Take bowls bags into the lounge or dining room. If you wish to use the Whiteknights changing rooms please carry and not wheel your bag through the lounge

### During the game:

- ⤴ Shake hands with your opponents before and after the game (kissing is not necessarily appreciated!)
- ⤴ Stand still and *behind the mat* while the player is delivering his/her bowl and avoid making distracting sounds
- ⤴ Avoid sideways movements across the rink, which may distract players on adjoining rinks
- ⤴ Do not allow your shadow to cover the Jack or distract a player who is about to bowl
- ⤴ When changing ends always walk towards the centre of the rink
- ⤴ Stand well back from the developing 'head' and leave all instructions to the designated player
- ⤴ Do not interfere in any way with the process of deciding shots unless delegated to do so
- ⤴ Wait until the result of an end has been declared before moving or removing any bowls
- ⤴ If an umpire has been called, stay well clear of the 'head' until a decision has been made
- ⤴ If you are responsible for keeping the score compare your card with your opponent's at regular intervals
- ⤴ Always inform your opponent and/or Skip if you require to leave the green
- ⤴ Never be heard to criticise the state of the green or other players
- ⤴ Commend good play at all times and acknowledge your "flukes"
- ⤴ If you lose the game remember to congratulate your opponent
- ⤴ Be courteous at all times and refrain from using abusive or inappropriate language

### At the end of a game at home

- ⤴ If you have been representing the Club you should offer to buy a drink for your opposite number of the visiting team
- ⤴ Help with returning the equipment to the appropriate storage facility

### Duties of each member of the team for Rinks (4 players) and Triples (3 players):

#### Rinks (4 players)

- ⤴ The Skip is in charge of the rink
- ⤴ The Lead (No 1) of the team that wins the toss or the previous End will place the mat and deliver the Jack
- ⤴ The Lead (No 1) of the team that lost the toss or the previous End will gather the bowls when the end has finished if there is a pusher available, otherwise everyone helps
- ⤴ The Skip is responsible for the Scorecard but may delegate it to another member of the team (usually the number 2 in a rinks match). The Scorecards should be marked by the players playing in the same position on both teams to make the checking of the score simpler i.e. both Skips or Number 2s.
- ⤴ The No 3 will give guidance to the Skip, if asked, when the Skip is bowling and carry out any measuring if necessary when the End has finished. If there is a tight measure the Skips should be asked to measure first and the Skips will call for the umpire to attend if necessary.

In some competitions the Skip and the No 3 will stand at the Head end, this is known as 'Threes up'; the Leads and No. 2s come up to the head when the No. 3 goes to the mat to bowl.

#### Triples (3 players)

- ⤴ As for rinks except that the No.2 takes the place of the No.3 in a rink.

In a competition or league match it is possible to have "Twos up" in which case the Lead comes to the head as the No.2 goes to the mat to bowl.