ENTACO BOWLS CLUB

ETIQUETTE

The etiquette of the game of bowls is a combination of good manners, sportsmanship and sociability, these courtesies are best described as the unwritten Laws of the Game.

They are extras and designed to promote social ability and the excellent reputation for friendliness and sportsmanship the game of bowls has rightly earned.

1 Be conversant with the Laws of the Game and observe them.

2 If you nominate for a game and are picked to play but need to pull out, let the Captain know asap.

3 Be punctual to commence play at all matches and come to the game with the correct dress code.

4 Switch off your mobile phone. Do not use it during a game.

5 Do not smoke on the green. Observe any restricted smoking areas off the green.

6 It is customary to introduce yourself to each of the opposition players, shake their hand and wish them to 'have a good game' or similar.

7 Keep quiet and refrain from moving when players are on the mat and about to bowl. Stand well back, out of the line of sight of the player on the mat.

8 Always stand still at the head when a bowler is about to bowl, movement at the head or talking at the mat is very distracting. As far as possible keep your shadow off the jack and close bowls.

9 Do not delay play, always play your bowl with minimum delay but never deliver your bowl before the previous bowl has come to rest.

10 Possession of the rink transfers to the opposition as soon as your bowl comes to rest. You may not ask or answer questions unless you have possession, and you must be behind the mat or behind the jack as soon as your bowl comes to rest. Remember, as the skips change ends, if it is not your turn to bowl, you cannot stop and discuss tactics and impede the other player if they are on the mat. If you want a lengthy discussion, wait at the head until the rink belongs to you. Never walk up the rink in front of the player that has just bowled if the bowl has not come to rest. They are still in possession.

11 Walk close to the centre of the rink with minimum delay when changing ends, to avoid distracting players on the next rink.

12 It is for the one's in pairs, two's in triples and the three's in rinks to agree the number of shots won. Other players should stay away from the head unless asked to give a view. Do not kick bowls away from the head until the score has been declared. When taking out shots place the bowls on a cloth or group them together to ensure no confusion occurs.

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13 Keep track of the play; be ready to bowl when it is your turn. Be prepared to carry out your duty as required in the team; be this casting the jack, keeping the score, measuring etc.

14 Every player at the mat end should assist in collecting bowls when the end is completed. At the end of the game help collect and store any equipment.

15 Always pay your skip the respect of waiting for their decision.
Don't step onto the mat and indicate which way you intend playing, wait for the skip's instruction.

16 Never applaud nor complain about lucky bowls, accept them graciously. They tend to equal out over the season.

17 Always take care to protect and conserve the green surface at all times;

DO NOT

a) Drop bowls onto the green.
b) Stand on the edge of the green or sit on the bank with your feet on the edge of the green.
c) Often move from bank to green as this can cause undue wear to the green.
d) Walk in the ditches.
e) Run on the green.

18 Always inform your opponent if you wish to leave the green.

19 If you lose, be a good loser, do not blame your loss on other people, the green, weather conditions etc.

20 Win or lose always shake hands with your opponents and thank them for the game.

21 If you are the <u>home</u> team always offer your opponent a drink after the game, win or lose. Number One's offer to the opposing number One, Two to Two, Three to Three. Skip to Skip.

22 When off the green and before walking past the end of a rink, check that no one is about to bowl towards you. If there is, stand still and wait until the jack or bowl has left their hand.

23 Be a good club member. Put you name down for as many club games as you can.

ABOVE ALL, ENJOY THE GAME OF BOWLS FOR ITS PLEASURE AND COMPANY.