

## **Policy for playing outdoors effective 12 April 2021**

Following the advice and guidance given by Bowls England this policy has been drawn up to ensure that all members are aware of the rules that the club is introducing in respect of playing on the Outdoor Green.

### **Playing Arrangements**

- A booking system has been set up and must be adhered to. If you wish to book a rink you should do so by preferably by logging on to the BowlR system or if you do not have internet access by calling 01823 666914. Bookings must be made 24 hours in advance.
- There will be four sessions per day. 10.30-12.30; 13.00-15.00; 15.30-17.30 and 18.00-20.30 (dependant on light).
- Initially only the disabled entrance to the green is available for use and you will be advised of the code when you make a booking.
- Play will be on alternate rinks and the rink will be allocated on booking.
- Players should arrive no earlier than 15 minutes before their allocated playing time and should leave within 15 minutes of their finishing time.
- Maximum of thirty players on club premises at any one time. Only singles, pairs and triples play permitted.
- In accordance with Government guidelines we are able to open the bar so long as all purchases are consumed outside and the rule of 6 is maintained.
- The club will cap the number of occasions a player can book a rink each week to ensure that the available capacity is distributed fairly.

### **Playing Formats**

The following playing formats are in accordance with Government guidelines:

- Individuals playing bowls on their own on a single rink.
- Two individuals from two different households playing on a single rink (no marker).
- Members of the same household on a single rink
- Triples play involving players from different households is permitted

Social distancing rules must be strictly adhered to; you must remain at least two metres apart from other bowlers (who are not part of your household) at all times.

### **Clubhouse and Facilities**

- Until further notice the clubhouse will remain closed and locked.
- The disabled toilet only will be open and you should clean it before and after use.
- Sanitiser will be available for cleaning hands and equipment before and after playing.
- Players should bring their own personal sanitiser for opening and closing the gate.

- PLEASE DO NOT USE SANITISER WHILST ON THE GREEN ITSELF

## **Equipment**

To minimise the risk of infection, only essential items (as below) should be utilised during any session:

- Mat ( only sanitise the top of the mat)
- Bowls
- Jack
- Rink Markers (these will be placed by Green Staff)
- Gloves
- Bowling arm/lifter (for use by one person only if required).
- Bowling aids (for players with a disability if required)

To minimise the risk of infection, any other equipment is not deemed essential equipment at this time and will not be available. This includes:

- Scoreboards
- Bowls Pushers
- Ditch Markers
- 2m Distance Sticks
- Chalk in any form

## **Players**

### **In advance**

- Do not go to the club if you are experiencing any coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or any cold or flu-like symptoms, in particular a cough or a high temperature. Use the NHS 111 website or helpline and seek advice. For your own protection, follow the advice about self-isolation if you are, or are living with, someone in one of the vulnerable groups
- Dress appropriately before you get to the club to avoid the need to change clothes – change shoes immediately before and after your game
- Travel to the green on your own or with members of your own household only – do not offer a lift to, or accept a lift from, anyone outside your household. Do not arrive more than 15 minutes before your allocated booking time.

### **Personal care**

- Clean anything you have touched after use.
- Take any food or drink you might need with you and remove anything you bring when leaving.
- Wash or sanitise your hands you use before and after you play

- Sanitise padlocks, keys and door handles before and after use.

## Playing the game

- You should only play:
- By yourself
- with people from your own household
- You may now play with 5 other people from different households
- Do not shake hands before, during or after a game
- Do not 'high-five' OR 'hug' other players to celebrate shots or a win
- Only one player should handle the mat during the session
- Two jacks (one at each end and of different colours) should be used for singles play and this should be set by one player only throughout the session
- One jack at each end is permitted for pairs play.
- Do not touch your opponents' bowls with your hands
- Measuring for shots is not permitted. Use best guess.

## When you leave

- When you finish playing, change your shoes and leave the club immediately – ensuring that you have sanitised all equipment used and that the club is secure.

## Additional Notes

- Any member who is found breaking any of the above rules **will** be suspended immediately pending disciplinary action.
- If you feel unwell after playing please advise the booking officer so that we can advise other members who were playing on the same session. It will be a generic notification and no names will be mentioned.
- **NOTE: all play and rules above are dependent upon Government Regulations, which will in all cases take precedence over club rules.**