



## Ashtead Bowls Club

### ETIQUETTE

#### Before stepping onto the green...

- Learn the Laws of the Sport of Bowls & abide by them.
- Dress correctly for all games.
- Be punctual – arrive about 30 minutes before the game should start.
- Switch off your mobile – use only if necessary, and then discretely and away from the green.
- Greet your own team members & opponents at the start of the game. Congratulate/compliment them at the end of play. Shake hands before a match & at its conclusion.

#### On the green: what to do, and what not to do...

- Concentrate fully on the game. Save your socialising until afterwards.
- Pick up your bowl & be ready when it is your turn.
- Stand still when a player is on the mat.
- **Do not** talk or make a noise behind the mat when a player is about to deliver a bowl.
- Remain behind the mat or behind the head when it is not your turn to play.  
**Remember** – when your bowl comes to rest, possession of the rink (**at both ends**) passes to your opponent.
- Keep to your own rink. Do not wander & distract other bowlers. Walk down the centre of the rink when changing ends. **Do not walk through the head.**
- Avoid obscuring rink markers.
- On sunny days, be aware of your shadow – do not let it obscure the jack.
- Do not walk past the end of a rink when a player is about to bowl towards you.
- Stand well back from the head when drive (or firing) shots are being played. Warn players on adjacent rinks
- Pick up the mat after the last bowl has been delivered.
- **Do not remove any bowls until the result of the end has been agreed.** If there is a measure, any bowls not involved may be cleared.
- Always remember that Markers & Umpires are voluntary officials. They should be treated with respect & courtesy at all times. An umpire's decision on measuring is **never** questioned!
- **Help clear bowls.** If you are the **HOME** team, 2s alter the scoreboard **after** the bowls have been cleared. Losing lead uses pusher if allowed, Winning lead's concern is to put down mat & deliver the jack. (Skips can now fill their scorecards.) Losing lead may also put out bowl for winning lead.



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### **On the green: behaviour...**

- Inform your opponent if you need to leave the rink.
- **Never** criticise your opponents, the green or your own team. If you cannot say something positive, don't say anything at all.
- Encourage & praise the rest of the team, including the skip. Bowls is a team game & everyone should be working together.
- But don't applaud a team member who has outrageous luck!
- Always appear to be enjoying the game.
- Compliment your opponent on a good shot.
- Admit a fluke with grace.
- Be gracious whether you win or lose.
- Do not take or consume food or drinks on the green. Leave them on the tables at the ends of the green.

### **... and when you're off the green at the end of the match...**

- FINALLY – after games, players should sit with their opponents.
- If it's Club game – the winners offer their opponent a drink; the losers to reciprocate.
- If it's Home game against another club or player from another club – you offer your opponent a drink; Away, and its over to your opponent.
- If it is a Ladies' Game, you all get tea!
- ...and in a Singles match, don't forget the Marker.

