

LAWN BOWLS ETIQUETTE

This is about good sportsmanship and that means paying respect and being courteous to your fellow bowlers whether they are on your team or are your opponents.

Game always starts with a handshake and an expression of a good game to your own team mates as well as your opponents. Always ends with a handshake and a thank you or a compliment

Be ready to play when your turn comes. Be waiting at least one meter behind the mat with bowl in hand. After bowl stops, exit the mat to your right.

Pay attention to the game – team mates will appreciate it and deserve it.

- Be ready to play your bowl
- Observe the green and how it runs
- Avoid excessive chatter and movement – behind the mat or at the head – very distracting.

Possession of the mat

- Stand behind mat when opponent delivers their bowl – away from rink markers
- On sunny days be aware of your shadow – can distract or block vision
- Wait till opponents bowl comes to rest before delivering yours
- At mat end stand on bank when your turn is done. At head end, stand near your vice to the centre of the rink or off the green.

Compliment your opponent or a teammate on a good shot

Do not criticize your teammate for a poor shot: no one willfully plays a bad bowl

Respect your skips decisions for the shot that they would like you to play

Do not openly criticize the green, particularly if you are a guest of another club

The losing lead is responsible for pushing the bowls in at the conclusion of an end. The vices help to get the bowls in a compact group for ease of raking.

Walk down middle of rink with minimum delay

Admit a “fluke” shot in good spirit

Avoid walking down rink holding bowls or dropping bowls on green from banks or anywhere

End of game – help put equipment away.

Be a gracious winner and a good loser