

Tiptree Jobserve Bowls Club

Bowls Etiquette

(Or how to behave on the green)

Check you know the correct dress for the game, and wear it.

Allow yourself time to change your shoes and be on the green in time for the scheduled start.

Start and finish the game by shaking hands with your opponent(s). Skips should introduce their team to the opponents.

Whilst another player is on the mat do not distract them by movement, noise (particularly talking) or in any other way.

Possession of the rink belongs to the player on the mat until his or her bowl comes to rest.

Whilst waiting to bowl, remain well behind the mat. At the head end remain well behind the person directing the head. Show an interest in what is happening and ask questions, but choose your moment carefully.

The mat passes to the next bowler as soon as the previous bowl comes to rest and any indication of the finishing of the bowl should be completed before it has come to rest or left until possession of the mat has been regained.

When changing ends walk down the centre of the rink. This prevents you from interfering with play on adjacent rinks. Do not walk down the rink until the last bowl comes to rest if the person delivering it stays on the mat.

Cont...

Do not criticise the playing state of the green but help to protect it. Don't bounce bowls on the green or drop them onto the green from the bank. In other than Club Competitions there are rules laid down as to how the suitability of a green may be challenged.

Do not criticise the performance of your playing colleagues.

When watching from the bank it is still very necessary to be careful that you don't cause distraction to a person who has possession of the mat. Do not walk across the head end of a rink when a player is on the mat ready to bowl.

Wait until the shots have been decided before kicking in the bowls.

If you are keeping the card, compare with your opponent and the scoreboard at regular intervals.

Unless you are involved with deciding the number of shots, stand back and do not interfere.

If the umpire has been called, retire to the bank until a decision is made.

Be prepared to commend a player of either side for a good bowl and admit a fluke openly.

**Be a gracious winner and a good loser, but
above all enjoy the game.**