

Dunblane Bowling Club

Bowls Etiquette



Bowls is one of the few sports where true sportsmanship still prevails. This is a position that should be guarded jealously, and by following a few simple principles listed below you can help maintain the sportsmanship and courtesy that has characterised the game of bowls for so many years.

Before the Game

1. Check that you know the **correct dress** for the occasion and wear it.
2. Make sure that you know the **starting time** of the game and be there in sufficient time to change your footwear etc. and be on the green ready to start at the appointed time.
3. In a team game, be there in time to **welcome** your guests.

During the game

1. Enter and leave the green **by the steps** provided.
2. **Do not drop** your bowls on the green.
3. **Shake hands** with your opponent before and after the game.
4. **Do not sit** on the steps or the bankings.
5. Do not drop **litter** in the ditches – use the receptacles provided.
6. **Stand still**, while your opponent is on the mat.
7. Do not infringe the laws of **rink possession**.
8. Wait until the result of the end has been decided before **kicking in the bowls**.
9. If you are responsible for keeping the score, **compare your card** at regular intervals. If score boards are in use make sure they agree with your card and the card of your opponent.



10. Unless you have been delegated to **decide the shots** at the completion of the end, **do not interfere** in any way with this process.
11. If an **umpire has been called**, stay well clear of the head until a decision has been made.
12. If you have lost the game, remember to **congratulate** your opponent.
13. **Never** be heard to **criticise** the green or your opponent.
14. Acknowledge a **'fluke'** and commend an opponent's good bowl.
15. Finally, please apply **common sense**.