



# BASIC ETIQUETTE FOR BOWLERS

## Proper Etiquette Brings More Enjoyment to the Game

- SHOW RESPECT TO ALL PLAYERS ● TREAT OTHERS HOW YOU WISH TO BE TREATED ●

### Before & After A Game

- When walking to and from the greens from the clubhouse, always walk along the bank. Wait until players have delivered their bowl before walking across their sight line.
- Help set out and return the equipment before and after the game.
- Don't drop your bowls on the green causing dents to the surface.
- Shake hands with team mates and opponents at the beginning and end of each game.
- Never debate decisions with the Drawmaster – their ruling is final.
- Be a gracious winner and a good loser.

### During Play

- Lawn bowls is a team sport. The Skip indicates to fellow teammates how they want them to play in order to get the best outcome and the team plays accordingly.
- Be ready to play when your turn comes.
- In order to protect the greens try your best to deliver the bowl close to the grass.
- Do not distract a player who is on the mat. Stand at least 1 meter from the back of the occupied mat and be quiet.
- Be aware of your shadow and ensure it is not in the sight line of a player who is bowling.
- The team whose turn it is to bowl is said to have "possession" of the "head", "mat" or "rink", and only that team should be openly inspecting bowls and discussing strategy or scoring. The other team should step back from the head or mat and keep quiet.
- Walk down the centre of the rink when changing ends so you don't interfere with the players on the adjacent rinks.
- Always compliment a good shot – for your own team or the opponent. Never criticize a bad shot – no one willingly plays a bad bowl. Admit when a shot is a "fluke".
- Scoring is decided by the players in the "Third" or "Vice-Skip" position; no other players should provide input to the scoring or question their decision except the Skip.
- After the scoring has been agreed upon, kick bowls to the centre to make raking easier and keep the game flowing. The "Lead" of the team who lost the point should gather the bowls to a spot 2 feet behind the mat on the right side.
- Warn players and those on adjacent rinks when "Drive" shots are going to be played.
- If a fellow player makes an error discuss it with them privately, gently, and politely.