

LYMINGTON BOWLING CLUB

PLAYING ARRANGEMENTS

SPRING 2021

This document explains the arrangements for playing bowls at Lymington Bowling Club. They are designed to align with current advice from Bowls England in order to keep players safe while emerging from Covid19 restrictions. As government and Bowls England advice changes, this document will be updated accordingly.

In Case of Accidents or Emergencies

There may not be a steward to assist with any accident or emergency that may arise and members must take any necessary action themselves. Should the clubhouse be locked, the keys are in the key safe which can be opened with the usual number.

The clubhouse telephone can be used to call for help or for emergency services however it is anticipated that many members will have mobile phones that would be more convenient and quicker to use.

A first aid kit and bottled water are available in the clubhouse on the stewards desk just inside the door together with the Accident Book to record any events.

A defibrillator is positioned on the wall outside the back of the clubhouse and can be accessed by going straight through the clubhouse towards the tennis courts and out through the rear door.

The following arrangements and rules are mandatory.

General Arrangements

An electronic rink booking system has been established and allows members to book rinks online and to see any other bookings that have been made. All bookings must be made using this straight forward system and this is described in more detail later in this document. Bookings may be made at any time and will be for sessions lasting for a maximum of 2 hours. Members without access to the internet will need to enlist the help of a friend or playing partner to book on their behalf or to telephone one of the system administrators to do it for them. Do not visit the green unless you have booked a date, time and rink.

All Members are eligible to book a rink to play but spectators are not allowed at present. Everyone using the booking system is considered to have given their consent for their details to be passed to the health authorities if this is necessary.

Associate Members may bowl subject to the normal charge, currently £3.50, and use of the bowls booking system. A cashless terminal is available to pay green fees by credit or debit card. If this is not possible, an 'honesty system' will be used with payment preferably made by bank transfer to the club or by cheque. Please telephone the Treasurer on 01590 644252 for account details or address to send a cheque

A 'one way' system has been established around the green to minimise the times members may need to pass each other on the narrow pathways. Signage around the green indicates the direction and reminds players of the requirement.

The changing rooms are open and available to use if required but only by one person at a time and masks must be worn inside. If you enter and see that another person is in the changing room, retire until that person has left. If possible, in order to minimise any risk, players are asked to arrive 'rink ready' and only needing to change shoes without using the changing room. No separate time is provided between bookings for changing shoes, sanitising equipment or hands etc. These things must be done within the booked time such that at the end of the booking players have left the green allowing the next booking to commence on time. Players should not arrive any earlier than 10 minutes before their booked slot.

The Bowls England guidance is based on the government rules concerning organised sport. A detailed list of what is included as 'organised sport' is given in the Bowls England guidance but for our purposes it can be summarised as any league or competition that is organised by a bowls association or by the club. Other activities are classed as informal bowling (individual practice, roll-ups, etc) and are restricted to a maximum of 6 people from different households, the rule of 6, or 2 households per rink.

In practice this means that the following formats are allowed :-

Organised Bowling	Informal Bowling
Singles - Use of every rink and marker permitted if required	Singles - Use of every rink
Pairs - Use of every rink	Pairs - Use of every rink
Triples - Use of every rink up to a maximum of 4 at any time (24 Players on the green)	Triples - Use of every rink up to a maximum of 4 rinks at any time (24 Players on the green)
Fours - Use of every rink up to a maximum of 3 rinks at a time (24 players on the green)	Fours - Not permitted

Any combination of formats may be played subject to a maximum of 24 participants on the green. Spectators are not allowed at this time.

The rinks will be ready for play for the first session each day with rink numbers and markers, jacks and mats in place. Each rink will have sanitising spray, hand gel and wipes supplied.

Players may opt to use score boards, pushers, 2m distance sticks if they wish. These can be found in the equipment shed and should be sanitised before use and after. Hands should be disinfected using the gel or wipes.

Members may use their own measures and spray chalk but should not allow others to handle them. Do not use a measure if the distance requires more than one person's participation. Members with their own jacks or mats may wish to use those and reduce the chance of contamination while avoiding the need to sanitise equipment.

The toilets and changing rooms are now available for use by playing members however there will be no access to other areas of the club and masks must be worn inside the clubhouse.

The entrance door to the ladies and the mens toilets are fixed open to avoid the need for contact with the door handles, please do not close them. Only one person is allowed into either the ladies or mens toilets at a time to maintain social distancing. If you enter and see another person is using the facilities, retire until the person has left, maintaining social distancing. Only one cubicle in the ladies is in use, the others are marked out of use.

Sanitising gel and wipes are provided and, of course, soap and water. Everyone using the facilities must use the wipes that have been provided to clean any touched surfaces before and after use. This is to protect yourself and the next person using the facilities. Waste bins for disposal of wipes, tissues etc are provided in the toilet area and everyone is asked to maintain a high standard of tidiness so no debris is left on the floor or in other areas. Playing members and

any committee members will check the toilets during a playing session and rectify any unsafe situation. Disposable gloves in the toilet areas are provided so everyday remedial activity can be safely carried out. Our cleaner will also be carrying out normal cleaning duties but members are asked to assist in keeping the toilet areas sanitised, tidy and safe.

Instructions are displayed in prominent areas at the main door of the clubhouse and adjacent to the toilets to guide members.

The clubhouse is now unlocked but members should not gather in the clubhouse for shelter as social distancing will be difficult to maintain and less safe indoors. Members need to provide their own food and drink.

Before starting play use the sanitiser on the jack and mat and allow them to dry before putting them on the grass. Arrangements for ensuring the mat and jack remain virus free are described later. Repeat the procedure at the end of your game so that everything is left ready for the following booking. This 'belt and braces' approach should eliminate any cross contamination from one session to the next, after all, what's a little sanitiser between friends.

A roll of paper towel is available in a receptacle on the post by the clubhouse door where it is sheltered from the weather. This can be used to wipe away any excess sanitiser, at the end of the game please take any used towel away with you. There is a convenient litter bin in the alleyway alongside the main gate.

Note: There will not be a steward on duty all day but rinks, jacks and mats will be set out and put away each day.

Booking a Rink

Rinks may only be booked electronically using the RinkDiary system. This allows members to book rinks without having to enter the clubhouse and it keeps a record of people playing on the green should it be needed for 'Test and Trace' purposes. Anyone unable to use the system over the internet will need to get help from someone who can. A regular playing partner or colleague who is willing to be a bowls booking-buddy is the best answer, an administrator will be available to be called upon but a quick response cannot be guaranteed.

Separate instructions for registering with the Rink Diary system and using it to book rinks are available together with a link to a TubeYou video. It is very straight forward and easy to use, in many ways just replicating the paper system we have been used to in the past.

What is different this year is that all rinks are available to book, however a maximum of 24 players is allowed on the green at any one time.

The easiest way to keep within the 24 limit is as follows :-

- Go to the rink diary and look at the date and time you wish to book
- If less than 4 rinks are already booked, then you may book any rink for any format or make any change to your existing booking.
- If 4 rinks or more are already booked make sure your booking or alteration does not take the total number of players over 24.
- Remember, each Triples = 6 players.
each Pairs = 4 players.
each Singles = 2 players.
each rink booked for a league match is a triples rink.

Playing Bowls

Do not go to the club if you or anyone in your household has, or suspects they have, corona virus symptoms.

Enter the green carefully and follow the one way signs to your rink.

The following procedures minimise the chance of spreading the virus by touching shared equipment, on occasions when this is inadvertently not followed (stuff happens after all), there are sanitising gel and wipes to hand.

Each rink will have 2 jacks, a white one and a yellow one. If playing singles, this is a jack each and in teams its one per lead player. No-one else needs to touch the jack with their hands, positioning can be done by the marker or skip using their feet or a bowls lifter.

Similarly each rink will have two mats at each end; a yellow one to be used by the player with the yellow jack and a black and white one to go with the white jack. Again this is a mat each for singles players and, in teams, one each for leads to position and skips to remove.

If you need to use a scoreboard try to restrict the number of players who update the score, better still, just use a single scorecard and take it home with you. A number of spare scorecards are available in a receptacle by the clubhouse door where they are sheltered from the weather, bring your own pen or pencil.

If measuring for shot use your own measure and do not allow others to touch it. Measuring is a time when players tend to gather round, don't do that, remember the 2 metre rule!

Informal Bowling

With informal bowling it is possible to have all the bowlers at one end of the rink at the same time and therefore the greatest potential for losing the 2 metre distancing. Be Aware!

When bowling without a designated 'lead' or 'skip', minimise any cross contamination by nominating particular players to handle the jack or the mats on everyone's behalf.

After the game

Leave promptly when your time is up to avoid overlapping with any incoming players.

At the end of the game return the jacks and mat to the same end as you found them and sanitise them along with your bowls and your hands. Take any rubbish away with you e.g. wipes, drinks, sweet wrappers etc.

If you are the last person to leave the green, make sure the clubhouse is locked up securely (no one still in the toilets!), the keys are in the key safe and the gate is padlocked. The steward will clear the equipment away for you but please remove any rubbish.

ENJOY your game,

The Committee
12th April 2021

Useful Links

- Lyminster Bowling Club - <http://lyminsterbc.co.uk>
- The Bowls England Advice can be found at - <https://www.bowlsengland.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/return-to-play-step-two-090421-FINAL.pdf>
- The rink booking system can be found at - <https://www.lyminster.rinkdiary.co.uk>
- The rink booking tutorial video can be found at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i0_pp3klEB4
- The Bournemouth and District Bowling Association - <https://www.banddba.org.uk>
- The Bournemouth and District Women's Bowling Association - <https://bournemouthanddistrictwba.org.uk/league.html>
- The New Forest Bowling Association - <http://www.newforestbowls.co.uk>
- The New Forest Women's Bowling Association - <https://newforestwba.org.uk>