



Code of Conduct

The aim is to provide an enjoyable, comfortable, safe and rewarding environment for all people associated with our club. It applies equally to officials, members and their guests, including players from other clubs visiting for competitions or social events.

Members, visitors and guests of the club have a right to:

- **RESPECT**
- **R**espect all participants and decisions; **E**ncourage everyone; **S**portsmanship; **P**lay to enjoy; **E**ducate and be knowledgeable; **C**onduct yourself courteously; **T**reat everybody with fairness
- Participate in an environment free from all forms of harassment and discrimination;
- Have their privacy and confidentiality protected.

It is expected that members and visitors of the club will at all times:

1. Be friendly, courteous and respectful towards other members and visitors
2. Respect teammates, opponents, officials and the rules of the game;
3. Refrain from behaviour that would bring the game or the club into disrepute;
4. Refrain from behaviour that could offend or embarrass others;
5. Behave in non-violent and non-abusive ways;
6. Respect the positions of all incumbent club officers, committee members and volunteers of the club;
7. Treat the property and facilities of the club with respect;
8. Contribute positively to the sporting and social activities of the club.

Conduct is a matter of concern to all members – poor conduct, in whatever form (including all forms of online and social media), has a negative impact, and can be harmful and destructive to the club and its members.

It is the responsibility of all members to ensure that their behaviour is appropriate at all times.

If a member is offensive or abusive, responding in the same manner will also be considered a breach of the Code of Conduct. The only reasonable and acceptable response is to not engage in a negative behaviour.

Any member representing the club must not engage in conduct which is violent, aggressive, inappropriate or prejudicial to the interests of the club. A member representing the club, for the purposes of this rule, is defined as anyone who:

1. Is a playing, life or social member;
2. Is wearing club uniform or any items of uniform that identifies them as a member of the Club;
3. Represents the club in any bowls event;
4. Participates in any bowls event at our club or at another club, or attends such event(s) as a spectator.

Bowlers will show respect to their team mates and opponents, and play the game of bowls to the highest degree of sportsmanship and honesty and in line with the Etiquette of Bowls as laid down by its governing body.

Spectators on the surrounds of the green will conduct themselves in a manner that ensures that bowlers are not distracted or abused.

Members, visitors and guests will ensure that the comfort of other patrons is not unreasonably disturbed and will conduct themselves in a manner that will not cause offence.

Smoking is not permitted within the railings surrounding the green or in front of the clubhouse.

Members, visitors and guests will consume alcohol responsibly and will accept the decision of any staff or licensee to discontinue the serving of alcohol without complaint.

Breaches and Resolution

If any member, visitor or guest feel that their rights under this Code of Conduct are being or have been infringed in any way they can report breaches of the Code of Conduct to any member of the Committee in person or in writing

Where and when required, the Committee or a Disciplinary Committee appointed by the Committee, has the right to make decisions, and enforce fair and appropriate measures, to resolve a breach of the Code of Conduct.

Any reported breach of the Code of Conduct will be investigated, discussed and dealt with by the Committee or by a Disciplinary Committee appointed by the Committee and may result in either a reprimand, suspension, or the revocation of club membership for a set period of time or for life. In the case of non-club members, the Bowls Committee may also consider a ban from the club for a set period of time or for life.

The Committee will always look to investigate and deal with concerns in a timely and calm manner, with honesty and dignity and, as far as possible, confidentiality will be maintained.

The Committee will advise all concerned parties of their decision, **which will close the matter.**