BOWLS ETIQUETTE

Etiquette is mainly a code of behaviour whereby individuals treat one and other the way they expect to be treated themselves.

- **Always be on time – at least 15 minutes before the calling of the cards**
- **Wear the correct uniform**
- **Wear your name badge – do not call players "Dear" they have a name – use it**
- **Turn your mobile off if not 'Live Scoring'**
- **Do not dump your bowls on the green**
- **Do not step or sit near the plinth (edge) of the green**
- ***It is the second's responsibility to introduce the members of their team to the opposition***
- **The skips toss to determine the first to play – the winner of the toss has to play first**
- ***The lead should have the mat ready to be placed as soon as the head is declared – in social bowls, to prevent a lot of kicking, the mat should be placed in front of the majority of the head***
- **Be ready with bowl in hand when it is your turn to bowl, do not be sitting on a seat as this slows the game down**
- **Do not distract the player on the mat – by talking, or allowing your shadow to fall across their aiming line or moving in their line of vision**
- **Do not leave the green until your opponent has finished bowling**
- ***The directors (or anyone near) at the head should stand still when a player is on the mat***
- **The winning third/second of the previous end should place their skip's bowl on the mat – this is not only a courtesy but provides a check on who has possession of the mat**
- **The control of the rink passes to the opposition as soon as your team's last played bowl come to rest – if you're the team's director of the head, move back from the bowls to allow the opposition to direct the next play**
- **Do not talk to the skip on the changeover unless discussion of a difficult head is necessary**
- **Walk in the middle of the rink when changing ends – don't wander onto the next rink and distract other players. Change ends quickly, don't hold up play**
- **All players must assist in kicking bowls**
- **Inform your opponent if you wish to leave the green – perhaps to go to the toilet**
- **Do not criticize other player's performance – everyone tries their best**
- **Be a good loser and winner – no post mortems after the game**
- **The winner usually offers to buy their opponent a drink after the game – if the offer is not to be reciprocated, decline**

IN ALL CASES, GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP MUST PREVAIL