

During the game

Do

- Stand well behind the mat when others are bowling.
- Stand still at the head when someone is on the mat and about to bowl.
- Await your skips instructions before you bowl.
- When you've bowled, ensure you vacate the mat once your bowl has stopped moving.
- Pay attention to the game, even when it's not your turn to bowl.
- Encourage and support your team mates.
- Stick to your duties and do not interfere with others.

Don't

- Walk passed other rinks when someone is on the mat and about to bowl.
- Talk to the other team's bowls (eg: miss, hit, go through the hole, get in the ditch).
- Clap or applaud your team's wicks or lucky shots.
- Outwardly grumble at the other team's wicks or lucky shots.
- Approach the head – unless you are invited by the Three.
- Start trying to identify the number of shots – unless you are the Three.

Lastly, remember bowls is played for fun and enjoyment.

- Never worry if you bowl a bad wood or two – we all do 😊

Bloomfield Bowls
The fun starts here.



The Rules and Etiquette for a typical game of bowls

For a home game you should arrive 20 minutes before the start time and 'check-in' with the Captain.

For an away game there will be an advertised time to meet in the car park. Please don't be late.

If you intend to travel separately – ensure you let the Captain know.

Please note and respect the dress code for the match.

You will be given a playing position: One, Two, Three or Four. They each have specific jobs:

1. **The Lead.** If you win the end, grab the mat and place it before delivering the jack at your skip's direction.
If you lose the end, use the pusher to gather the loose bowls and 'push' them away from the mat.
2. **The Two.** You keep the scorecard.
3. **The Three.** You agree with your opposite number the score after each end. You measure if required.
4. **The Skip.** You control the play, liaising with your Three as the game progresses.

There may be a pause at halfway for a cuppa & a biscuit.

But it is now more usual to play through and have a drink and nibble at the end.

After the match it is customary for the home player to offer their opponent a drink.

If you are offered and accept a drink when playing away, it is polite to reciprocate before you leave.

It is also polite and customary to buy a raffle ticket costing £1.